fall hits nut at ritics

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Sir John Hall, our rich friend in the Norti Ang of

**Fory rage** 

at Blair's Christian attack

John Ezard and Patrick Wintow

ONY BLAIR yes-terday provoked furious Tory critbattle for the high ground of poli-tics, when he said he believed the Conservatives' narrow view of self-interest conflicted

with Christian values.
The Labour leader's office was angry last night that his remarks, made in an article in the Sunday Telegraph, had en presented to make it appear he was arguing Christianity and conservatism incompatible. He had started by stressing that he did not believe Christians should only vote Labour.

But his assertion that his religious beliefs led him to reject Toryism's belief in a self-interested society — a view also expressed publicly by his Presbyterian predect sor, John Smith — went far enough to infuriate Conserva-tives, who accused him of being sanctimonious, patron-ising and of using Christianity to gain support.

However, he was backed by the Liberal Democrat MP. Simon Hughes, as well as the Archdeacon of York, George Austin, who announced he would vote Labour at the next

election.
The controversy is likely to distress Mr Blair, who in the article repeated his deep distaste for "politicians who wear God on their sleeves" But the row, recalling Lady Thatcher's essertion that God believed in Tory wealth creation, also demonstrated the dangers for politicians linking their political views to their religious beliefs.

The Tory onslaught was loosely prompted by the following remark: "My view of Christian values led me to oppose what I perceived to be a narrow view of self-interest that conservatism - particularly its modern, more right

wing form — represents."

The Home Office minister and recently converted Catholic, Ann Widdecombe,



Blair gospel

'My view of Christian values led me to oppose what I perceived to be a narrow view of selfinterest that Conservatism particularly its

modern, more rightwing form represents' - Tony Blair retorted that Mr Blair and Labour had shown them-

selves "entirely motivated by self-interest - the self-interest of power". The Tory Party chairman.

Brian Mawhinney, an ex-member of the Anglican Synod, said: "I would be very cautious about any politician who sought to claim that his party was the exclusive vehi-cle for Christian action." The Tory backbencher, Michael Fabricant, said: "He now not only sees himself as

from not only sees timeset as Prime Minister, but as Arch-hishop of Canterbury as well." And Dame Jill Knight, a member of the Tory back-bench 1922 committee, said: "When politicians feel they must claim Christian princi-

should vote for them . . . they have abandoned moral hought themselves.

The angriest remarks came from David Wilshire, conve-nor of the Methodist Fellowship at the House of Commons. "No politican should embark on trying to argue Christianity as justification for their ideology," be said. "He starts off by saying that he is not suggesting you can't be a Christian and a Conservative, but then he goes on and implies it."

The Archdeacon of York sant to Mr Blair's defence, accusing Conservatives of reating a storm in a teacon.
Simon Hughes, Liberal hurch of England, describe Mr Blair's article as thought "Conservative criticisms

... are foolish and demean our faith by party politics," he said. "The Labour leader expressly does not say that he believes that Christians should only vote Labour. He only explains why the Gospel leads him to his own political

Mr Blair's article drew on Kierkegaard, Jung and Kant as well as the Bible. The Tories based their attack on a passage in which he said his Christian values led him to believe Tories "have too selfish a definition of self-

"They fail to look beyond to the community and the indi-vidual's relationship with the community," he wrote. "That is the essential reason why I am on the left rather than the right. The key point is that Christianity is more than a one-to-one relationship be-tween the individual and God, important though that is. The relationship also has to be with the outside world.

"What distinguishes m from Conservatives is that I believe people are more likely to act well and improve them-selves in a society where op-portunities are offered to them to do so; which strives to be cohesive and treats people as of equal worth."

After the Big Breakfast, the big chat show

Briton's championship cup floweth over

Taby goes



#### The documentary Britain can't see

G2 page 7

## **BBC's Bashir** 'smeared by colleagues'

HE BBC accused some of its staff yes-terday of participating in a newspaper smear campaign against a Panorama journalist, after Martin Bashir, the reporter who secured the Princess of Wales interview, was alleged to have forged private bank atements in the run up to the broadcast.

A senior BBC source said Princess Diana interview, which gained the biggest television audience last year with 21 million viewers, had earned Mr Bashir the jealousy of many BBC people, in-cluding some within Pan-orama. He has won several

awards for the programme. In addition to yesterday's newspaper allegations, Mr Bashir is known to have been alarmed when his filing cabi-net at work was rifled, it is sider. A national newspaper reporter later presented Mr Bashir with a photocopy of his private expense claims, demanding an explanation.

"There are a lot of people some within Panorama who were very upset when Martin Bashir got the Prin-cess Diana interview," the BBC source said. "They feel aggrieved that a new face has come along and secured the kind of scoop they would have

cern two fake bank statements that Mr Bashir commissioned from independent graphics designer employed by the BBC. The sheets were made up to look like photocopies, according to the Mail on Sunday.
One of the sheets purported to show that the former head of security acting for Princess Diana's brother, Earl Spencer, had received a payment of £4,000 from News International, which owns the Times, the Sunday Times and the Spencer obtained an injunc-

pert, Alan Waller, forbidding him from disclosing any in-formation on the earl and his family or on the royal family to the press.

The second sheet gave an

entry for a payment from Pen-folds Consultants, a business partnership mentioned in an tion by Mr Bashir into the affairs of the England football coach, Terry Venables. In an editorial, the Mail on

Sunday said that Mr Bashir "seems to have gone far be-youd what could be justified as being in the public interest". It called on the BBC's director general, John Birt, to take swift action. The Mail on Sunday has at-

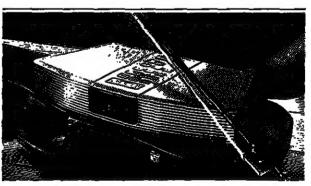
tacked Panorama and Mr Ba-shir before. The day before the Princess Diana interview was broadcast last November, the newspaper accused the programme of staging a "covert, cunning and misleading exercise" to bring the princess on board.

The BBC dismissed yesterday's story as a knocking piece which relied for its material on the sour grapes of ealous BBC employe

Concern about the docu nents was first brought to the BBC's attention last December when Matthew Wiessler. the graphic designer who produced the fake bank state-ments for Mr Bashir, showed copies to senior BBC executives. An internal investigation was launched, which found that although Mr Badocuments he had discarded them when he was unable to substantiate the information

they contained.
"It wasn't a very good idea to have these documents made, and Mr Bashir accepts that," said a BBC spokesman. But we have confirmed that in no way were the docu-ments used to gain the interview with Princess Diana."

The princess's media con-sultant, Jane Atkinson, said the documents had no bearing on the decision to talk to Sun. In March 1994 Lord Mr Bashir, "She certainly wasn't aware of any docution against the security ex- | ments, forged or otherwise."



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## Republicans 'at war'

David Sharrock Ireland Correspondent

KEY figure in the talks that led to the IRA ceasefire told fellow republicans they were once more "in a war situation" as they commemorated the 30th anniversary of the Irish Eas-

ter rising yesterday.
Gerry Kelly, a convicted
IRA bomber who partnered
Martin McGuinness of Sim
Feli in the secret like with British representatives which preceded the Downing Street Declaration, delivered a gloomy speech to more than a thousand supporters in Drumboe, Co Donegal, offer ted the British government to

in Londonderry: "Mr Bruton has not so far risen to the challenge presented by British duplicity and had faith."

British policy in Northern Ireland was clearly rooted in the Ir

ing no hint of snother IRA promote a Unionist agenda ceasefire.

His comments came as the encouraging." encouraging."
The Sinn Fein vice-press

His comments came as the Sinn Fein president, Gerry Adams, accused the Irish prime minister, John Bruton, of caving into London and failing to provide the right leadership.

Mr Adams told supporters

His comments came as the smill and supporters are the search for peace. They are

given at the graveside of four IRA volunteers shot dead by the Free State army during the Irish civil war. He said: "The sad fact is that we are all again in a war situation. "Sadder than that still is that if the British government turn to page 8, column 7

Kevin Rafferty in Tokyo

JAPANESE men in their hundreds of thousands are escaping into an expanding virtual world even more improbable than that of space invaders — one where girlfriends, incredi-bly, do as they are told. Computer games offering virtual friendships, love affairs, and even sexual encounters are selling like hot takes to young men wary of the real thing. The most popular games are achieving sales of 500,000.

"The way the virtual women behave is rather old-fashioned, the way that my mother's generation was expected to behave -

Red Rose Economics: A week-long test of

Economics

Labour policies

begins by asking if

the party's sales

pitch has failed to

obedient servants of men," one young woman, Masako Fujii, explained

Switched-on Japanese woman on the geisha game

Damon Hill celebrates victory in the Argentinian Grand Prix in his Williams yesterday It was his third straight win this season. Report, page 16 PHOTOGRAPH PASCAL RONDEA

In Exciting Memory, for example, the player is of-fered more than 10 young women with whom to dally. He chooses the one with whom he will develop a relationship. In most ways it is true to life — except, crucially, that the lucky lady does not have the option of telling her fantasyprone boyfriend to get lost.
In another best-selling series, Princess Maker, the player controls the activities, hobbies and clothing of a girl character he "raises" from childhood.

leaving the country. A female brain-drain is under way as women who yond being the office tea-lady, head abroad. The US and England are among their western destinations along with international companies based in Hong Kong and Singapore

that women have been the first to be sacked in Japan's

recession, the real thing is

Happy in his virtual para-dise, Japanese Man may not be all that bothered. Women's complaints about sexual discrimination are exactly the sort of whing

Her future is in his hands. Not surprisingly, given such attitudes and the fact page 6

Sport	Comment and Letter Oblituaries 10
Rangers yesterday	G2
beat Celtic 2-1 in	Crossword 15; Westi
the semi-final of	Radio 16; Television
the Scottish Cup.	· COLUMN SERVICE FRANCE SERVICE SERVIC
ensuring that they	: WERTHEIF BRINI 16 BILL 11 HIN G
will play Hearts	
in the final	4000 ULB 10 HELEB HELD 11 UDDE 18

induced thyroid cancer is claiming victims, especially young children, at STATE OF THE STATE vesterday after the North sent heavily armed troops into the buffer zone.

**World News** 

excite the voters.

Inside

an alarming rate.

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# Playing the numbers game at £7 a night

The sense that playing bingo is a sort of job was overpowering. The regulars came in with a business-like determination, took their seats, and began



Matthew Engel

S CLUBS go, it does not have the cachet of the Garrick or the Groucho. But then the waiting list is shorter, the entrance fe cheaper and it is certainly handier for Dudley Bus

The Gala Bingo Club, Dudley, is in session every after-noon except Sundays, and every night except Christmas night, in the former Dudley Hippodrome, where Laurel

and Hardy once performed. The old theatres and cinemas, where young people might have gone, closed down in the 1950s and the 1960s, that gravely misunderstood decade, to be replaced by bingo halls for their parents. But it is a curiosity of the 1990s that what seemed to be Britain's most indestructible institutions have suddenly stared

into the abyss: the monarchy, the Conservative Party, now

bingo. Nationally, half the halls — 900 of them — have gone since the numbers peaked in 1972. Since the National Lottery began, takings are down by a sixth. For obscure reasons, the West Midlands has been hardest-hit. The Top Rank Club, up the hill from the Gala, is about to join the list of closures. On the other hand, there is a huge new purpose-built Mecca place down the road in Oldbury, which is doing mega-business. That is another business. That is another problem here at the Hippodrome. But Gala is the biggest operator in the country, with 130 clubs; it is owned by Bass;

it is lobbying the Government to ease some of the restric-tions of the 1968 Gaming Act. and is working hard to per-suade people that bingo is not the preserve of "old ladies in hair nets" (the company's phrase) but belongs to the young, trend-setting and chic. Maybe one day Gala will take

over the Groucho Club. The Dudley club is not obvi-ously struggling. About 350 were in on Friday night and John Madeley, the general manager, was anxious to ex-plain what a pleasant place he had. "In the olden days bingo halls were not very nice places at all. They were not well-deco-rated. Now it's more like walkrated. Now it's more like walk-



Full bouse  $\dots$  Bingo players await the next game at the Gala Bingo Club in Dudley

ing into a nice night club or restaurant. They can have a drink or the dish of the day. It is a place people can come, especially ladies, where they feel safe, where they can come on their own and find friends."

This is all true And the

This is all true. And the safety theme was repeated by many of Mr Madeley's customers, especially younger ones. In the night clubs there are punch-ups: in the pubs you get hassied, here custom-ers and staff are friendly but no one bothers you. But it is only half the pic-

ture. I am not a complete novice in matters of gambling: I can work out my winnings on an each-way double; I know whether or not to take a card playing blackjack. But this was bewildering in its speed

and complexity, requiring ex-traordinary levels of comprehension and concentration. I had vaguely wondered, inocently, whether callers now called No 10 "Major's Den" the way they used to refer to "Maggie's Den", or whether there was any new folk-num-

numbers come through a com arter at a nice, regular pace. People like it done profession ally because sometimes it's for quite a bit of money." Indeed. The numbers were bering to supplement "click-ety-click" and "two fat ladies" called, without comment or showmanship, by a young

PHOTOGRAPH: PUSSEUL SACE

our type of hall now bingo is

serious. There aren't table-

tennis balls any more. The

rate of about one a second.

Before he can say anything, they flash up on screens. The men tended to be less engaged. men tenuen to be less engaged.
But many of the women were
marking six grids, which is a
considerable task, involving
imperceptibly co-ordinated movements of hand and eye. There was silence. Ciga-

rettes were left burning in the ashtray until someone shouted "House" and there was a break. Even this was was a break. Even this was momentary because the cards were computer-checked. The hard-core players, like Sheila—a bingo regular for 37 years—play 12 grids simultaneously if a chum has to go to the loo. This is amazing. Air traffic controllers cannot have done their jobs with more intensity this Easter.

more intensity this Easter. The sense that playing bingo is a sort of job was overpowering. The regulars came in with a business-like deter-mination, took their seats, and began. When the evening was over, they left as if the

factory hooter had gone. There was camaraderie, but not the constant chit-chat of a normal club — it was the snatched laughter of a busy vorkplace. Then back to

Theoretically, there are in-tervals between the three main sessions. But there is

seed, and in the skk-rooms, prize bingo, where you win prickets of Day or tine of baked beans. It is in the intervals that Gala makes its profits. In the fover, in keeping with Section 14(4) (B) of the Gam-ing Act, there is a churt from which a mathematician, with a bit of neck craning, might be able to compute the odds on each of the games. This was beyond me, but the house's take seems to vary between next to nothing, if it is running loss leaders, and close to the a bu of neck craning, might be oss leaders, and close to the Lottery level of 50 per cent. On average customers spend £7.2 night; they do not normally get

if all back.

Mr Madeley cannot advertise his prize money and he was concerned that if he even mentioned the multily £100,000 national Jackpot it might contravene the Gaming Acr. Since the Lattery screams out its payouts (although not its absurd odds), this is unjust.
The bingo industry does

need help, if only because it nurtures quite exceptional skills in its players. Nowadays they are undervalued, because the computers that have transformed bingo have trans-formed industry as well, and the need for women that can work this fast and this accu-rately has diminished. One day the nation might have need of them again.

## Tories stand by 'un-American' attack on Blair

Patrick Wintour, Chief Political Correspondent

HE Conservative Party yesterday defended its decision to send a twopage dossier denouncing Tony Blair, the Labour leader, as "un-American" to selected American journalists before Mr Blair's visit this week to Washington and New

The propaganda move was greeted as a "pathetic stunt" by the Labour Party, which predicted that it would backfire on the Tories by giving more publicity to Mr Blair's right and the propagant with the pro visit to meet President Bill Clinton and Wall Street bankers, and to visit homeless

The research by Central Office, including claims that both Mr Blair and his wife. Cherie, were anti-nuclear and anti-American, was prepared to counter the tide of generally favourable media coverage for Mr Blair in the US. Americans widely expect him to be the next prime minister. He has already been the sub-ject of a favourable profile in the New Yorker magazine, from which other US journal-ists are likely to take their

An unrepentarit Conserva-tive Central Office, however. insisted yesterday that it was only copying tactics adopted by the Labour Party, which regularly amasses and dis-tributes damaging past quotes by cabinet ministers.

"When we do it, Labour de-nounce it as dirty tricks. When they do it, Labour says it is fair, sweetness and light and the work of Christians," said a spokeswoman. She claimed many US opin-

Blair, that all the quotes were accurate. She added that Labour criticisms of the dos-

sier were garbage.
She added the dossier was to have been handed this week to British journalists accompanying Mr Blair to New York and Washington.

The dossier is largely based on guilt by association, and is American quotes from Mr Blair. This is possibly be-cause the Labour leader is one of the most enthusiastic supporters of the US Demo-crats in the British Labour

party.
Using the McCarthyite phrase The Un-American ac-tivities of Mr Blair as its title, the dossier repeatedly refers to Mr Blair's stated opposition to nuclear weapons in the mid-Eighties — both in his election manifesto in 1983 and indirectly through his | Dole.

membership of the Labour Co-ordinating Committee

ressure group. It also cites Neil Kinnock, the then Labour leader, in 1986 in the Commons rejecting the US bombing of Libya as an act of rage by President Ronald Reagan. "Mr Blair registered his

support for his leader," the dossier claims, "by voting

mentary CND, citing a news-paper advert by that group calling for the removal of cruise missiles from Britain and for demonstrations outside the US Embassy in Lon-

A Commons motion criticising "the USA's evil campaign against Nicaragua" and President Reagan's statesponsored terrorism in Central America" to which Mr Blair put his name in 1988 is the final piece of evidence.

can Shadow Cabinet is also conjured up through reference to four Shadow Cabine members attending the short-lived Supper Club, which op-posed British entry into the war against Iraq in the Gulf

His promotion of members

Mr Blair has already been the subject of a in the New Yorker

Clarke, Margaret Beckett and Clare Short — shows, according to Central Office, that Mr Blair sympathises with their

tle honoured on either side of the political fence, that politi-cians travelling abroad are in some way representing Britain, and therefore should not be subject to partisan attacks back home during their overseas visit.

However, the Tories made maximum publicity out of Neil Kinnock's first ill-fated visit to the US in November 1986, when the British press portrayed President Reagan as snubbing Mr Kinnock. It is noticeable that on this occa-

#### Britain fails to find country to take in Saudi dissident

COUNTRIES as far afield as Sweden and New Zea-land have refused to take the Saudi dissident, Professor Mohammed al-Mas'ari, it was

Mohammed as was disclosed yesterday. According to Whitehall sources, fruitless attempts discussions with neutral

against the two governments Libya in April 1986."

Mr Blair is also criticised for being a member of Parlia-

A picture of the anti-Ameri-

favourable profile

of this group — John Pres-cott, Michael Meacher, Tom

There is a tradition, now lit-

However, the Tories made

# Subway vigilante prepares for next showdown



Darrell Cabey . . . paralysed victim seeking \$50 million

Bernie Goetz, the nerdish New Yorker turned symbol of 'white rage', gives lan Katz

> spreads across Bernie Goetz's thin face as he recalls the scene he witnessed at a Manhattan shop: the lobsters were alive, but around them everything was dead. "And I'm sure the lobsters are quite aware that they are

he says.
Mr Goetz, now aged 48, exhibits far less distress recalling the incident 11 years ago which transformed him from

The circumstances, he has always maintained, were that four black youths surrounded him, demanding money, as he sat in a subway carriage on December 22, 1984. Mr Goetz,

trial, he was acquitted in 1987 of attempted murder and later term for illegal possession of a firearm. To many Ameri-cans, the bespectacled engi-neer was a hero. To others, he

sitting in a bunch of meat,

an anonymous electrical engineer into one of New York's most notorious figures — in-stantly christened by the tabloids the "subway vigilante".
"I feel very comfortable about what I did," he says.
"I'm not ashamed for having shot the guys under those

who is white, drew a gun and opened fire, injuring all four. After a highly controversial

served an eight-month jail was a trigger-happy racist. These days, Mr Goetz would prefer to talk about his yegetarian diet and his pets, a guinea pig and a chinchilla. However, other people still want to talk about that day on



Bernie Goetz with his chinchilla. "I feel very comfortable with what I did. I am not ashamed for having shot the guys."

PHOTOGRAPH: ELLEN BINDER

cifically, lawyers for Darrell Cabey, the youth most seri-ously injured in the incident. Mr Cabey, who suffered brain damage and partial paralysis, is suing Mr Goetz for \$50 mil-

lion (£31 million). Mr Goetz hopes the civil trial which opens in a Bronx court today will be the last mile of the legal marathon he

unwittingly entered when he squeezed the trigger of his .38. Ronald Kuby, the lawyer representing Mr Cabey, claims that he will show Mr Goetz was a racist, who at-tempted to shoot the injured Cabey again, telling him: "You don't look too bad,

here's another."

Mr Goetz, admits he did try
to shoot Mr Cabey again, but
insists that is academic because he had run out of bul-

because he had run out of bul-lets. He says race had nothing to do with it: "The guys were shot because of what they were doing, not because of the colour of their skin."

His lawyer, Darnay Hoffman, claims Mr Goetz is a victim of "liberal McCarthy-ism", and ridicules Mr Cabey's claim. "He wants to

be given more money for try-ing to rob someone and failing than Michael Jackson will make this year." At the time of the shootings, the gawky, nerdish Mr

Goetz became an improbable poster boy for a growing "white rage" backlash against the apparent failure of government to curb crime. Surrendering to police in New Hampshire after six days on the run, Mr Goetz told detectives: "The subway system ... is a disaster. The school system is a disaster. The crime system is a disaster ...

the truth is ugly, it's disgusting and I was a monster. But I wasn't a monster until several years ago in New York." Mr Goetz says he received more support than criticism for his actions. "People generally look at it as 'bad guy, good guy." Basically, people like to see bad guys get shot."

Mr Goetz now doesn't set cut.

Mr Goetz now doesn't get out often, but spends most of his time in his Manhattan apartment watching television, and reading, particularly on his favourite subject, the Roman repairing electrical equipment.

this weekend, large photo-graphs of the youths shot by Mr Goetz lay on a coffee table. He says the photos do not cause him any distress.

He claims the youths - all of whom had some form of criminal record, and one of whom is now serving a prison sentence for rape — "represent the failure of the social system ... if you have irresponsible people having babies, there can be no good

names, there can be no good solution".

Alternately diffident and defiant, Mr Goetz cuts a somewhat unsettling figure. What, precisely, does he mean when he says countries should be "more selective in their immi-grants, just like people should buying an animal"?

They should be "the type of people you wouldn't mind having Christmas dinner with", he explains, avoiding any mention of race.

Bernie Goetz says he can-

dealing with the conse-quences of 1984. "In the old West, if someone had shot four outlaws, why would they bother to try and catch him?"

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## Getting to the heart of the matter

Review

Tom Sutcliffe

Bach's St John Passion

HERE is little difference between a concert and an act of worship — on Good discussions with neutral countries, such as Switzer-land, and Commonwealth nations like New Zealand, have proved equally unsuccessful.

"The reluctance of other countries to accept Professor with his meditative arias for terror hass, alto and soprano were made at the opening of the Inter-Governmental Conference in Turin on March 29 to persuade individual European Union members to take in the rejuctance of other countries to accept Professor the Covernment's stance on the Government's stance on the Government's stance on the Covernment's stance on the Covernment's

No doubt the Festival Hall audience on Friday at 6pm included the usual cross-section of humanists, atheists and Jews. But we were all as rapt and involved as the most devout bunch of Christians.

Mark Padmore is one of the

most remarkable evangelists singing today. What renders his performance so impres-sive is its lack of sentimental ity. He makes every word tell, but with a serene, stone-hewn objectivity that never becomes self-indulgent. An extra bonus is his slight roughness; high-sheen polish is never right here, just sincerity and devotion to the inner

truths about suffering and

eternity. Ronald Corp, conducting

with a taste and energy that ideally matched Padmore, wonderfully supported and enthused the London Choral Society. One might have criticised the sopranos' botched top As in the opening chorus. By and large the wholesome by and large the wholesome ensemble and sweet natural timbre of this 130 strong choir provided a marvellous human backdrop to the drama. If the New London Orches-tra was dwarfed by the choris-

ters at full pett, it suited the soloists perfectly — which was important. Corp got a decent, not laboured sense of baroque style: William Hunt's viola da gamba in the second alto aria was superb, a great partner to James Bowman's ravishingly sung "It is fulfilled". Tenor

Paul Agnew rose to the incredible demands of "Behold him, see". Baritone Stephen Var-coe was at his best in the trill-ing bass aria with chorus, "My Lord and Saviour". Stephen Holloway, standing in as Christus for a sick Paul Robinson, made a firm if youthful impression.
What stuck in the mind,

though, was the beauty of Pad-more's extended melismas on crowed at the disciple's third denial that he had known Jesus. Peter's too human failure is one of the most sublime moments in Christian art. In those few bars, Padmore seemed to get to the heart of what it is all about.

and began

**down** 

ENT OF

## 'Smears' led to ousting at Woolwich

HE ousted chief of the Woolwich Building Society yesterday accused senior managers within the company of conducting an "orchestrated smear campaign" to remove him because of the speed at which he was trying to reform the company.

Peter Robinson.

resigned as chief executive of the Woolwich on Tuesday after an internal audit revealed alleged "discrepancies" in his company ex-penses, said: "I deprecate what I believe is an orches-trated smear campaign against me. I'm getting lots of feedback about what is going on — that staff have been in-vited to offer up any negative information about me and they are guaranteed that their obs are not at risk.

"I can pinpoint that this is coming from a caucus of dissidents that I unsettled as I got everyone up to speed for the conversion. There are those who don't embrace change." Mr Robinson, aged 54, who

had been with the society for 33 years, said the resistance came from the managerial rather than board level, but refused to name name

"You don't work within an organisation without upsetting a few and hopefully pleasing the many. Pleasing the many must have been what happened as I was ap-pointed chief executive three months ago. I have not

"We are conducting a thor-

would ask members of staff if they do have information but this bit about guarantee-ing jobs, I don't think that has been mentioned," said David Black, head of corporate affairs. The allegations had been the result of "journalist investigation" and not any statements by the Woolwich, said Mr Black.

Mr Robinson resigned from his £300,000 job after an internal audit committee alleged that he had charged improve-ments on his \$450,00 home in ments on his £450,00 home in Kent, gardening bills and the purchase of a Range Rover to the society without authorisation. Previously Mr Robinson, who has denied all claims through his lawyers, had denounced people who attempt to make quick profits by investing in societies in by investing in societies in the hope of windfall profits

baggers".

The Woolwich has stated that it will not refer Mr Robhe agrees to pay back the dis-puted expenses. Negotiations between the lawyers repre-senting both the firm and Mr

after a flotation as "carpet

Robinson continue.
Yesterday, both he and his wife were both "shocked and saddened" by the events of the last five days. "The initial reaction of horror has turned to one of anger and determination to put these things right," he said. But they had been cheered

to get support. "One of the comforts in this fairly black home waiting on the doormat were letters of support from denied there had been a smear campaign but admitted employees had been asked to provide information about Mr Robinson.

Were letters of support from people within the organisation, from staff, from friends and from business connections. It was very heartwarming to see that I have had lots have been upwards of 40 or 50

#### Key republican dampens hopes of IRA ceasefire with talk of war

continued from page 1 had not squandered the year and a half of IRA cessation for selfish party political reasons, we might have been

well on the way to the resolu-tion of the age-old conflict between Britain and Ireland." He accepted there was con-

continuing.

Mr Kelly rarely speaks in public and became known during the Stormont talks as "the silent one". His audience yesterday was not full of the usual Sinn Fein faces, and an IRA representative was shielded from view by com-rades as he read out the

organisation's annual Easter Mr Kelly was introduced as "one of that intrepid band of the fluidity of the situa-who took the war to England". He was convicted of being among the first Provi-sional IRA bombers to target London in the early 1970s. After many years in prison, escape and recapture in Hol-

land, extradition and comple-

tion of his sentence, he was

"released and took up the battle where he left off", the crowd was told.

Mr Kelly told the crowd the ceasefire had lasted "an in-credible 18 months". For it to work again, there had to be unambiguous assurances that all-party talks would begin without any preconditions. Sinn Fein also wanted "time frames to achieve progress, suggesting that the party is pushing the British and Irish governments to set target deadlines for an outcome.

Despite the situation, Mr Kelly echoed Mr Adams by saying that "not all is doom and gloom". There were encouraging signs from grass-roots Unionists, and the national question was once more to the forefront of Irish politics. Republicans had emerged from the long imposed isolation.

> "I know that there is some confusion out there because forthcoming elections in Northern Ireland, Mr Kelly said he was against them but "if we need to defend the rights of our electorate we will do so. But there is no going back to any Stormont assembly."







Dragica and Milan Popovich, the widow and son of Stevan Popovich, (top left), at home in Oldham yesterday, and (above left) Mrs Popovich with her late husband

# Family in plea after mugged pensioner dies the widow and son of Stevan Popovich, (top left), at nome in Oldnam yesterday, and (above left) Mrs Popovich with ner late nusoand He accepted there was confusion in republican ranks about what the next steps should be, a remark that indicates the debate over whether to return to a full-scale campaign of violence or to take the political route is still continuing.

Martin Walneright

HE family of a pen-sioner who died after being dragged from biscar and mussed for £50 appealed for help in the hunt for his attacker yesterday, as detectives puzzled over the Yugoslav war veteran's last

Police are trying to estab-lish why Stevan Popovich. aged 74, who was victously kicked and punched by a teenager in Chapeltown, Leeds, took a wrong turning on his way to pick up a Serbian friend in an area he frequently visited and knew

The retired bus driver died | aged 42, an optical systems de-

15 yards while wrestling with the man through the window. Mr Popovich's widow Dragica, aged 65, said yesterday at the couple's home in Shaw, a suburb of Oldham: "Whoever killed my husband must be caught before he kills again. He loved the people here and he just trusted people. He has never been

nasty to anyone."
The victim's son Milan,

lence rests more on opportunistic attacks than any general air of menace. He drove into a narrow side street, Back Newton Grove, at a quiet time, 8.15am, where the teenager — who also ripped off his coat, wristwatch and wedding ring - was hanging

about.
"Mr Popovich was sadly in the wrong place at the wrong time," said Det Supt Andy Brown, whose inquiry team

stop the thief."

The attack was seen by a taxi driver from a local minicab firm. Quickline, and by residents who ran out as Mr Popovich pressed his horn and shouted for help.

The attacker was described as light-skinned, stocky and wearing a dark leather jacket with a green shirt hanging loose. A youth of similar de-

of a heart attack after struggling with the youth, described as an Afro-Caribbean with a "pineapple" haircut, early on Saturday. Although in poor health, he tried to stop his attacker making off with his brown E-registered Lada car, and was dragged for some 15 yards while wrestling with sometimes as little as 40 yards, to Back Newton post office. Postmaster Rangodh-Singh Thind said: "Every-body is sickened, although it came as no surprise. There

are muggings and beatings in Chapeltown on a daily basis." Milan Popovich said: "We have a lot of friends in Leeds loose. A youth of similar de-scription was seen nearby bian community in Chapel-with a teenager wearing a town. It was an area he felt

league to a meeting in Leices-ter to discuss aid for Serbian victims of the Bosnian war.

"He was a proud man, who arrived in Britain with just a pound in his pocket but built up a good life," said Fr Zarko Medic, whose Serbian Orthodox church in Bradford was regularly attended by Mr Po-povich's family. Prayers were aid for the dead man yesterday at Serbian churches

## Chernobyl cancer cases soar among young

James Meek in Klev

N AGGRESSIVE strain of Chernobyl-induced thyroid cancer which has already left more than 1,000 young people scarred and on medication for the rest of their lives is claiming victims at a growing rate, and will not abate until well into the next century, doctors believe.

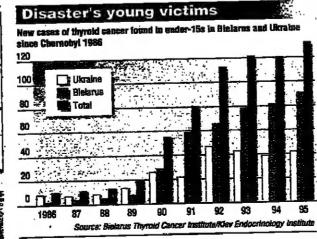
The latest figures from Bielarus, Ukraine and Russia, to be presented today in Vienna,

show a continuing increase in the number of thyroid cancer cases — particularly among children, and mainly from areas adjacent to the nuclear power station.
"If we see an increase now it's only the beginning," said

Alexander Poverenny, a Russian biochemist. "The peak will be in 20 to 25 years' time." Valery Tereshchenko, of the kiev endocrinology insti-tute, where most of the young with thyroid cancer, com-Ukrainian victims are oper pared to 121 in 1994. Before ated on, said: "No one the disaster, the average was predicted thyroid cancer on about five cases a year.



but not such high figures." Last year, 138 children in Bielarus and Ukraine under with thyroid cancer, com-pared to 121 in 1994. Before



open a reactor at Chernobyl on April 26, 1988, the particles which spewed out consisted largely of radioactive iodine 131. Iodine concentrates in the thyroid gland, which releases hormones controlling the body's metabolism. The most

When an explosion blew | vulnerable children were those from birth to three years old, and those at puberty.

Treatment of thyroid cancer involves radical surgery

roxin every day for life. A small number of children have died because their condition was not diagnosed in time. Sadly, most cases could have been easily prevented with common iodine, if only the authorities had warned

people in time.

"Of course the best thing would have been to have taken iodine in the first hours after the accident," said Mr Tereshchenko. "For it to have been effective, it would have been enough to have daubed it on the skin or to have gar-Analysis of cases shows

they are concentrated in the two regions most badly contaminated by the disaster—
Gomel in Bielarus and the Kiev region in Ukraine.

A scientific consensus has

emerged that the thyroid di-saster is directly attributable to Chernobyl. Some scientists say an increase in other can-cers still lies ahead.

Chemobyl Diary, page 9



One of the young men strokes his fishnet stockings, eases them down his thighs, and muses: "What's so special about the Rocky Horror Show? Well, it's got everything that's 'bad' or inhibited — cannibalism, incest, homosexuality, cross-dressing, domination, everything." Simon Hattenstone on Rocky Horror



warts, corns and calluses. FORMS A WATER-RESISTANT BARRIER - NO NEED FOR PLASTERS

slunke sledge: schools

March 1970 Committee

Decline in marxist ideas allows return to ethics-based interpretations of socialism but party remains wary

# Christian revival in Labour of love

Patrick Wintour, Chief

HRISTIAN social Labour thinking since the party's birth, has been undergoing a revival over The resurgence has been

helped by the decline of marxist economic determinism. and the return to more ethicsbased interpretations of socialism inside the party.

But the coincidence of two openly Christian party leaders in succession — John Smith and Tony Blair — has given the Christian Socialist crat. But they do not mind Movement, founded in 1960 drawing on the biblical and affiliated to the party, a

kind of respectability it had previously lacked. Others in the upper echelons of the party who have connected their religous beliefs to socialism are Chris Smith, the social security enchanges. social security spokesman, Paul Boateng, the legal affairs spokesman, Hilary Arm. strong, the local government spokeswoman. John Battle, the energy spokesman, and Norman Hogg, a friend of John Smith and an Elder of the Church of Scotland. None of them, as with Mr

Blair, wear their religion on their sleeve or seem to put it before their politics, in the manner of David Alton, the semi-detached Liberal Demo-crat. But they do not mind

understanding of fairness or

former Archbishop of Liver-pool, described as God's bias towards the poor.
In a recent book published
by the Christian Socialist Movement, its chairman,

Chris Bryant, pointed to the ugliness of George Bush's claims in the 1992 presiden-tial election that God was not just an American, but a Mr Bryant went on: "In Britain the Conservative Party has regularly attempted to portray itself as the party of the family, embracing tra-ditional values, with its lead-

ers very publicly attending Church." It would be wrong for Christian socialists to present themselves in the same way,

on what David Sheppard, the | wrote Mr Bryant, since it would "run the risk of being seen as yet another set of politicians who want to capitalise Christian, so I expect all Christians to vote for me'." Mr Smith in his 1993

address to the movement speech he regarded as one of the most important he deliv-ered as party leader — was careful to avoid this pitfall. Instead he argued simply it was right "to assert the moral value of society, as opposed to the nihilistic individualism of so much modern Conservatism"

Drawing on the works of R H Tawney. John Ludlow, and Archbishop William Temple, Mr Smith argued in-dividual freedom was only

achievable through society. "Conservatism, by contrast, was based on the flaw that human beings conduct their lives on the basis of self-interested decisions taken in radical isolation from others." Despite his belief in the

socialist analysis of society. Mr Smith was careful to say "Christian socialists should never seek to suggest Christlans must be socialists. Writing in the same book Mr Blair was equally eager to offer the same humility, but

like Mr Smith, he did imply a link between socialism and Christianity. "The values of democratic socialism, founded

wrote. Self is best realised through communion with others. He also claimed equality, in the sense of entitlement to equal treatment, was central to Christianity. However, Mr Blair has al-

ways been very careful not to discuss his Christianity unless asked, or to force it upor anyone else. He has never ap-pealed to the Bible to prove some party point. Nor does he see Christianity and Conser-

vatism as incompatible. To that extent Mr Blair, and most of the Christian Socialist Movement, will be rueful this Easter that an attempt to discuss his beliefs has ended on a belief in the importance of in a row based on the false society and solidarity with others, are closely intertwined with those of Christianity," he in explicitly denied.

#### News in brief

#### Murder hunt as twins found dead in canal

POLICE have launched a murder inquiry after the bodies of identical twin brothers were found floating in the same canal eight days apart.

The body of Christopher Langford, aged 38, was found in the Regent's Canal in Islington, north London, on March 26. A post mortem examination revealed various injuries but was unable to establish the cause of his death, which is being treated as suspicious. The body of Anthony Langford was found last Wednesday, 50 yards from where his brother's body was discovered

A post mortem examination concluded Anthony, whose body was wrapped in a blue blanket, died from head injuries. His death is being treated as murder. Police said both men were heavy drinkers and lived in various hostels around Islington.

#### Lib Dems complain to BBC

THE Liberal Democrats have lodged a formal complaint with the BBC and ITV over the convention that final eve-of-poil party election broadcasts should alternate between the Government

In the run-up to next month's local elections, the Lib Dems said the convention could no longer be justified because, in local government, they had eclipsed the Tories to become the second largest party "both in terms of seats and councils controlled".

The BBC could not therefore sustain its argument — as it had done in previous years — that it should not change alternating between the Councement and the efficial Connection. between the Government and the official Opposition.

#### Conservatives co-opt work ethic as mixed Church views add further fuel to unholy row



Every single thing the Labour Party has done over the last three years has been undoubtedly selfinterest in the pursuit of power. He portrays Pontius Pilate as a man torn between right and expediency. The Labour Party has consistently chosen expediency'

Ann Widdecombe Catholic convert Home Office Minister



The work ethic is born from Christian belief and it is one of the fundamentals of Conservatism that everyone should have the opportunity to work to their maximum reward while providing a safety net below which those weaker than ourselves should not fall'

Michael Fabricant Conservative backbencher



'No politican should embark on trying to arque Christianity as justification for their ideology. He starts off by saying that he is not suggesting you can't be a Christian and a Conservative, but then he goes on and implies it'

David Wilshire Conservative backbencher Commons Methodist Fellowship convenor



The Tory MPs who are having a go at Blair today may be feeling guilty about the way they have handled the Scott report and the BSE crisis. With them, it seems morality comes second

George Austin

Archdeacon of York



'He has not said anything'



He is not prepared to be interrupted on a Catholic Feast Day

Office of Environment Secretary John Selwyn Gummer a former Synod member but now a Catholic

#### Hospital's plea on Internet

A HOSPITAL, which has 40 patients in its area awaiting trans-plants has gone on the Internet with a plea to people to register to

plants has gone on the internet with a piea to people to register to save a life. By using an e-mail address, would be donors will receive an NHS registration form and donor card.

Wythenshawe hospital, in Greater Manchester, is also using the World-Wide Web to appeal for donations to its "New heart—new start" appeal. The hospital, one of the four main transplant centres, has performed 324 heart and lung transplants in the past nine years. Web users are told that by becoming a donor they join a nationwide list of people who will help others to live after their

#### Former spy base for sale

A FORMER top-secret United States spy base which kept track of Russian submarines has been put up for sale. Banks and financial institutions needing high-security computer facilities could be among those interested in the seven-acre size at Brawdy, in Pembrokeshire.

The US navy left the base last year following the end of the cold war. It operated for more than 20 years and was once home to 450 American personnel and 70 civilian staff.

Surrounded by security fencing and watch towers, Brawdy was officially described as a naval facility for ocean research. But special cables running out to sea from the coastline monitored the movements of Soviet submarines in the Irish Sea and far out into the Atlantic.

#### Court plea over 'baton death'

THE family of music promoter Brian Douglas, 33, who died in police custody after being arrested in Clapham, south London, isst May, are to seek judicial review of a Crown Prosecution Service decision last week not to prosecute officers. The family claim he suffered a fractured skull after being

beaten with US-style police betons, and his brother Donald said yesterday: "We hope to bring this matter to the high court within the next 10 days because we think this was a pernicious and unfair decision. If that fails then we will set a private prosecution in motion and consider a civil action for compensation." — Vivek

Clough 'stable' in hospital

FORMER soccer manager

Mr Clough, aged 61, who

## Human experiment idea defended by professor



David Morton . . . questioned status of PVS patients

**Vivok Chaudhary** 

PROFESSOR in bio-ethics yesterday defended his controversial sug-gestion that people in a persistent vegetative state could be used for medical experi-

ments instead of animals. David Morton, professor of bio-ethics and veterinary science at Birmingham uni-versity, told a seminar at the Edinburgh International Science Festival on Saturday that most scientists wanted a reduction in the millions of animals used in experiments. Alternatives such as the use of cell tissue and commal, he claimed.

"Twenty years ago society would not have taken seriously the idea of a person in a permanent vegetative state being used for experiments. But many people aiready leave their bodies to medical research and these people would give much more accu-rate information in experi-

ments than chimpanzees Mr Morton, who has been critised by religious leaders and relatives of those who are in a persistent vegeative state, claimed yesterday that he was not calling for tests on PVS patients to become rouputer modelling could not | time. His comments also come

Mr Morton said there was a debate as to whether PVS patients were actually people any more. Research on their bodies could take place when food and water had been withdrawn and before relatives took the decision to terminate the life of a PVS patient. He added: "The medical

profession may soon be faced with people who've left their bodies' tissue and organs to research. So if something tragic happens to these people and if it's decided that they're so permanently damaged that it's irreversible and doctors havedecided to withdraw food and water from them, these

give an accurate insight into | at a time when a number pathe reaction of an entire anilitients have made recoveries. | people will have made a liverage of the reaction of an entire anilitients have made recoveries. | In will to say we wish our lam university six years ago. tissue to be used for re as well as organ donation'.

Spokesman for the

Cardinal Basil Hume

Roman Catholic primate

"In that kind of situation the medical team will have to decide what to do. I'm not advocating anything, I'm reflecting what will come about as a real practical situation — and that may come about in the next few years." On BBC Radio West Mid-

lands, Mr Morton added: "So before you pull the plug, rather than burn the tissue and cremate them, tissue and blood could be taken ... but all that depends on what sort of work is going on - you would want to work on tissue that's as healthy as possible."

the use of all animals in ex-

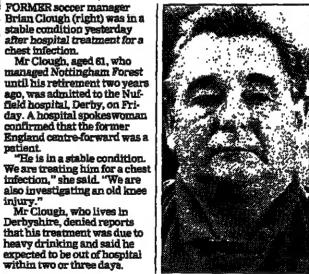
periments was a world first. John Barton, Archdeacon of Aston, and chairman of the church's board of social responsibility, claimed Mr Morton's suggestion could be the "thin and of the wedge". He added: "I think the idea is abhorrent. It all comes

down to the worth you are prepared to place on human life." Ann Rogers, whose son is in a persistent vegetative state following a car accident, said:

Wild music and

lasers dropped

injury." Mr Clough, who lives in Derbyshire, denied reports that his treatment was due to appalling. It has shades of Nazi Germany." heavy drinking and said he expected to be out of hospital within two or three days.



#### River search for missing girl

DIVERS were last night searching a stretch of the River Darent, in Kent, near the home of a 15-year-old Nigerian girl. Deo Adebayo, who disappeared last week. A police spokesman said: "Given the location of the river in relation to her home and that we have so far not found any trace of her, it is just a part of our on-

going inquiries."

The girl disappeared last Thursday after going to the shops to buy some flour for baking on Good Friday. But she never returned to the flat at Dartford, where she lives with her sister, Angela, aged 29. It is thought she may have left home because she had been

upset over a poor school report, and may now be living rough. Earlier yesterday Deo's mother, Elizabeth, who lives in Nigeria, and her brother Ayo, aged 25, made an appeal for her to return home. Mrs Adebayo said during a press conference at Dartford police station: "Please come home — we love you. No questions will be needed."

Members of the Emmanuel Pentecostal Church, in Dartford. where Dec attended, were asked to think of her during the Easter Sunday service. The Reverend Veyne Austin said the congregation had been praying day and night for her.

#### Change to elderly care costs

ELDERLY people may suffer unnecessary hardship because of confusion over the rules on funding long-term care, Age Concern warned yesterday. The charity believes many pensioners may raid their savings unaware of changes to capital limits. From today, people can keep £10,000 worth of savings or assets before they have to contribute to care costs. Those with savings between £10,000 and £16,000 pay a contribution.

Up until now most people with savings or assets over £8,000 have had to pay for all their care home fees. Those with between £3,000 and £3,000 have had to pay a proportion. Only those with savings under £3,000 have paid nothing.

#### Princess's mother charged

THE Princess of Wales's mother has been charged with refusing to provide a breath sample after being stopped by police.
Frances Shand Kydd, aged 60, was in Ohan on Friday when the alleged offence took place. A spokeswoman for Strathclyde police said yesterday that a report had been sent to the procurator fiscal at Ohan.

#### Five share £21m lottery win

FIVE ticket holders shared Saturday's National Lottery rollover jackpot of £21.2 million over the Easter weekend, winning £4.2 million each. The numbers were 1, 4, 6, 14, 17, 38, with bonus ball 9.

#### Straw promises to scrap Sinn Fein exclusion orders

Patrick Wintour

SENIOR Labour figures promised yesterday not to back down on long-standing opposition to exclusion orders which bar Sinn Fein sympathisers from the home secretary, earlier

The move was an attempt to allay backbench fears that the leadership was prepared to accept the Government's antiterrorist measures in full. The chief whip, Donald Dewar, said: "We have expressed very strong reservations about the legality and justice of this procedure and these objections have been upheld in the courts."

The Government had set up an inquiry into these orders under Lord Lloyd and Mr Dewar hoped that the Government would follow any recommendation he made to lift Jack Straw, the shadow

pledged that regulations on internal exile would be suspended and then repealed by an incoming Labour government. He told the Observer: "Exclusion orders are a stage too

far.
"Either we are the United Kingdom or we are not. My objection is not on grounds of their utility, but that they are

#### Dunblane killer's rife club to close as mark of respect

Peter Hetherington

HE RIFLE club that pro-vided the Dunblane massmurderer, Thomas Hamilton with target practice could close down as a mark of respect for his 17 victims.

Stirling Rifle Club is con-sidering winding itself up be-fore Judge Lord Cullen begins an inquiry into the deaths of 16 children and their teacher almost four weeks ago.

The club's secretary, Gordon Crawford, said yesterday that the 63 members shared a "collective guilt by association" and wanted to wipe out the name of the club

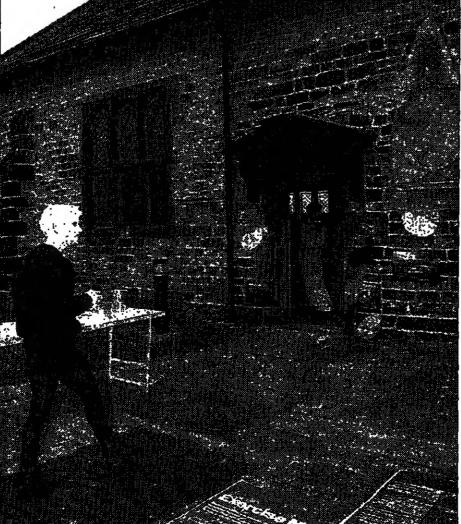
Hamilton, aged 43, prac-tised regularly with the club

the name of the club.

at the Whitestone military range. He last shot there two weeks before he turned his guns on the reception class in the gym of Dunblane primary school. This week the gym will be demolished by Stirling

council. Mr Crawford, an interna tional marksman, said it would be up to members of the Stirling club to decide whether they wanted to carry

on as amateur marksmen in an individual capacity.
Two months ago members of Callander Rifle and Pistol Club, near Dunblane, refused to ratify Hamilton's membership. Its secretary Parameter. ship. Its secretary, Raymond Reid, said: "He was just one of those people that you get a gut feeling about."

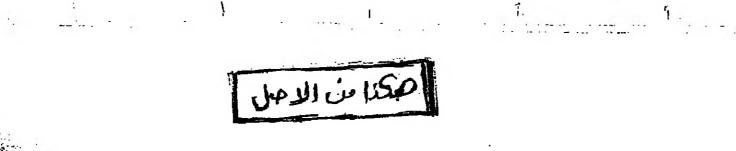


A woman arrives for yesterday's service held at the Hilltop Chapel PHOTOGRAPH ROSS PARRY

#### as service is resurrected Martin Walnwright and David Ward THE Church of England's experimental O'Clock Service, which col-lapsed in Sheffield last year amid sexual scandal, returned yesterday. Coloured Easter eggs marked the careful re-entry to the Anglican main stream for 25 adults and 15 children who met at the 17th century Hilltop Chapel, a world away from the shattered "rave parish's" former venue in a sports centre The Venerable, Stepher

Lowe, Archdeacon of Shef-field, took the congregation through "body prayers" and a service which kept the old spirit of experimen-tation modestly alive. But there was none of the wild music or laser lighting fa-voured by Christopher Brain, aged 38, the parish's founder, who has resigned as a priest after admitting sexual involvement with scores of women in his "I think we have brought

"I think we have brought back the best of NOS, its spirituality and theology," Mr Lowe said. He ended the service with a passage from Nelson Mandela about the many hills ahead to be climbed. "We intend to appoint a chaplain to NOS within three weeks and it is marvellons that this small." marvellous that this sinall but committed community is together again.'



## Blunkett pledges £3bn for schools

John Carvel Education Editor

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AVID Blunkett, the shadow education secretary, yesterday won a sustained ove-tion at the National Union of Teachers conference in Car-diff after committing Labour to a 😂 billion programme of school refurbishment funded through merchant banks.

He said he had agreement from Labour's Treasury team for a new form of public/ private partnership which could allow an ambitious pro-

requirement. Mr Blunkett has been work-

#### 'It is time to put away the buckets from under the leaking roofs'

ing on the scheme for about a year in consultation with the City merchant bank Hambros and is convinced that it could reap big savings through

The warmth of his recep-tion probably owed less to del-egates' appreciation of the de-tailed blueprint than to their desire to make amends for the incident at a fringe meeting during last year's conference in Blackpool when Mr Blun-kett was jostled by leftwingers. He also roused their support with a strong attack on the Government's plans for more selective education.

But the plan to tackle disre-pair in schools — estimated by the local authority associations last week to cost £3.2 billion - may answer a long-standing grievance of teach-

"It is time to put away the buckets from under the leak-ing roofs, time to take the Party."

start removing the temporary classrooms . . . "We are talking about bun-

dreds of millions of pounds a year to be invested in our schools so that in a period of time we can simply eliminate the backlog," Mr Blunkett said. The programme could take 10 years to complete, but would run a pilot scheme soon to allow an immediate

start after an election victory.

The scheme seeks to take
the capital cost of school
refurbishment out of the pubgramme of modernisation to go ahead without increasing the public sector borrowing requirement.

As Plunkett has been read to the public sector accounts by negotiating contracts with private consortia to repair and main-tain school buildings at an agreed price.

The consortia would take the risk, setting their pay-back from schools normal annual budgets. Savings would be made from greater energy efficiency, better-managed maintenance, and economies of scale, with the benefit being shared between the school and the consortium. Mr Blunkett contrasted the

cost-effectiveness of this pro-gramme with the public money which would be wasted on implementing the Prime Minister's plan to establish a grammar school in every town. "If there were 300 grammar schools built in England and Wales, it would cost in the perior of \$2 billion cost in the region of £2 billion to £2.5 billion and the number of children gaining access
would be 4 or 5 per cent of the
population." It would be "an
obscenity".

Doug McAvoy, the general

secretary, said the NUT would welcome Labour's commitment to deal with crum bling schools, but he declin-edto comment on the method of financing.

The Education and Employment Secretary, Gillian Shephard, accused Labour of stealing Conservative poli-cies, "It's yet another U-turn



David Blunkett received an ovation from delegates after speaking yesterday at the National Union of Teachers conference in Cardiff

## Tories target Smith's '£27 a week pension plan'

Patrick Wintour, Chief Political Correspondent

decided to target Labour's pensions plans, claiming the proposals may require an average of an

may require an average of an extra £27 a week in compulsory contributions.

The idee being floated by Chris Smith, the shadow social security secretary, for a new fully funded second pension is likely to become a key Central Office theme as it prepares its attack on Labour. The plan would be "a powerful indicator of its overall attitudes to tax and spending". Labour regards the figure

as based on false assump-tions, but the Conservatives based its 1992 general election tax bombshell claims largely on controversial claims about Labour's pension plans. The £27 a week figure comes in a Central Office

briefing paper which claims that if Labour wants to prove it is no longer the party of big spending, it will have to answer tough questions on pensions that it has so far dodged for four years. The paper points out that a third of social security spending, and over a 10th of total spending now goes on pensioners.

Mr Smith's pension review is examining the future of the

tional pensions and the possi-bility of a funded second tier sion scheme, run on an industry-wide basis, gradually replacing the State Earnings Related Pensions Scheme.

Labour has asserted, on the basis of Australian experience, that industry-wide schemes, partly due to tendering competition, can lower costs to 2-3 per cent, whereas personal pension schemes can have costs as high as 25 per cent. "Labour is not comparing like with like," Central Office

claims, asserting the 2 to 3 per cent costs are simply administration costs. By contrast, "the 25 per

pact of such costs on the investment pot by the time of sion company." vestment pot by the time of To lower administrative

costs. Labour would have to guarantee a large amount of business for pension compa-nies, the Tories claims. "It would have to be made compulsory for employees

and employers to join the in-dustry pension scheme and contribute a higher proportion of their salary, as in Australia.

"In Australia compulsory contributions into industry-wide schemes are set to rise

sions is the cumulative im. | in question could then negoti- | tably the Transport and Gen-

Contributions into industry-wide schemes at the Australian 12 per cent of earnings would reduce take home pay for the average person in the UK by £27 a week, Central Office claims.

Mr Smith has already said he will not adopt the Austra-lian scheme wholesale and does not want go beyond the present 4.8 per cent compul-sory pensions contribution, part funded by employer and part funded by employee. In a separate attack, the

to 12 per cent of earnings. Tory memo claims that Mr sets this minimum compared to 4.8 per cent into Smith is going to be chalabove that of income su Serps in the UK. The industry lenged by the big unions, no it would punish savers.

ings. He will also infuriate the TGWU, if he rejects a flexible age of retirement that allows workers to retire at 60 on a full basic pension. Central Office is also pre-

paring an offensive against an idea floated by Labour's social justice commission for a minimum standard of living for pensioners, in which in-come is topped up by the state for poorer pensioners with few savings. The Tories claim if Labour

sets this minimum level above that of income support

## Bullocks star in crisis tour

Martin Wainwright down on the farm to meet beasts enlisted to boost the beef trade

British beef farmers' attempted Great Comeback. Happily munching hay held by visiting children, he was star of the 150 strong Bayston beef herd at Gilberdyke, east Yorkshire.

"We've nothing to hide no dodgy additives or any-thing," said 146's minder Michael Bayston, whose family have farmed 670
Humberside acres for more than 50 years. "So we de-Humberside acres for more than 50 years. "So we dethan 50 years. "So we de-cided to open the beef unit them to a York abbatoir at got to have some beef"."

hooked by a publicity blitz from the north-east region of the National Farmers' Union, with one woman concerned that young stock spent their lives — pre-din-ner tables in northern Italy

- cooped up in crates.
"She was pleased to see that was nonsense," said

13 months. Twenty should have gone to slaughter by now, but the Italian market, says Michael's wife Penny, has "collapsed". "Everyone's rallying round though," said Mrs Bayston. "We've got the

Young Farmers 'do' coming up, and we're having a sponsored 'Eat a 720z Steak' competition, to raise as much as we can."

But Charles Haigh, another blighted Yorkshire

farmer now stuck with 40 unsellable bullocks, believes domestic confidence is returning steadily.

"You can do without it for a while." he said, "but the moment comes when



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#### **Excessive use of pesticide** 'could have led to epidemic'

Edinburgh International Science Festival that farmers were forced to use phosnet a blend of organo-phosphates — in the 1980s to combat war-

EXCESSIVE use of a pesticide more than 10 years ago could have caused the BSE epidemic, it was claimed over the weekend.

Mark Purdey, a farmer told the scientists meeting at over the weekend.

Mark Purdey, a farmerturned-researcher, told the

filame retardant bedding, h
told the scientists meeting a
the Royal Scottish Museum.

Acute organo-phosphate exposure brings about an array of neurological, psychiatric. endocrine, and immunological conditions in humans, he

The Government is still working on plans to handle the huge cull of cattle proposed to solve the BSE crisis, the Ministry of Agriculture

said yesterday. But a spokesman denied a Sunday Telegraph report that one plan being looked at is the dumping of ground-up cow carcasses in the sea.

**MUSIC EXTRA** 

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# Cybersex: empire of the senseless

Kevin Rafferty in Tokyo finds new technology is taking Japan's gender relations forward to the past as obliging virtual girlfriends perk up floppy disk sales and boys who never grew up can father their very own little princess



girl," offered Yoshihiro Saito. "She's very cute, and has really fallen in love with me."

The shy, straitlaced trading company executive, aged 32 had always appeared to be a

His rabbit hutch flat seemed the usual bachelor clutter of books, papers, dis-carded clothes and dirty dishes. But Yoshihiro was beaming happily as he went to his desk and turned on his computer. In a few minutes the screen warmed up and a smiling, full-colour picture of a pretty woman showed up. She was Yoshibiro's virtual girlfriend, whom he had called "Princess Fuyuko"

"We have a great time together," he chattered hap-pily, pointing out that he talked and made decisions and Fuyuko reacted accordingly, going out on a date. eating, drinking, cuddling —
even virtual sex was possible,
but Yoshihiro had so far
drawn the line at this, "Well
Look at this place I wouldn" look at this place. I wouldn't really want to bring a nice girl like my princess back here, and I find love hotels rather cheap.

Yoshihiro is by no means alone in preferring virtual friendships and sexual encounters to the real thing. Exciting Memory, one popular computer video game offering friendship and love affairs, including nudity, has been snapped up by more than 16 to 35 age range. A number of games have sold more than half a million copies.

player has more than 10

young women with whom to play. He chooses the one with whom he will develop a relationship. In most ways it is true to life, except in one crucial aspect — she does not have the option of telling her virtual boyfriend to get lost.

In Graduation II, the player ssumes the role of a teacher who chooses what five girls in his class will study, tells them what they should do at the weekends and generally shapes their lives as they are about to leave school. There is interaction in this game in that, if the teacher pays special attention to one girl. the others will react by playing up, becoming cheeky and even dropping out of school.

Yoshibiro seems quite happy with his virtual girlfriend and believes that by playing the game he is learn-ing the techniques which may help him win friendship and even love with a real woman one day.

friend, Akira, found his vir-tual woman became more fascinating than his actual girlfriend, and he spent so much time on his computer that she went into his flat and did a bit of tinkering to turn the virtual woman into a witch in an attempt to cure Akira. She did - in that he was heartbroken and refused to speak

to the real woman again.

Men are quick to say that
the games are harmless and may even help make men less shy. 'There are no losers, and there is fantasy love which doesn't harm anyone," said

Yoshihiro. But the few women who uch games — and | easy in real life few have, according to opinion polls - have a different perspective. "The way the virtual women behave is rather cound the ideal of male con-old-fashioned, the way that trol and are bad because they my mother's generation was help perpetuate old myths.



The real thing . . . Japanese women may be under threat from the booming market in computer girlfriends

Which may be why Ms Fujii is unmarried at 29, well past the traditional mid-twenties when women were expected to be married. SHE'S your little princess. You name her, wring your hands when she's sick, fret Yes, my mother kept reminding me that at 25 I would be stale Christmas

cake and past my sell-by date, she said. "My younger sister got married at 22 last year, but she had just graduated and prospects of work were dim in the recession. My clase were swinging street tough — no career girls and certainly not problem. Just reboot your

prepared to be bossed around by men. "Saito-san should stop playing with his fantasies and see that Fuyuko is damaging his real life."

'Risqué' game creates Daddy's girls to taste clothing of a girl character be "raises" from childhood.

over her schooling. Like any caring father, you keep steady watch over her hobbies,

But if, after all your atten tion, she becomes a bar hostess strutting around in fishcomputer and start again.

The game is part of a hit series of Japanese software

Even at 14,800 yen (£90) per release, the series has sold a combined 200,000 copies, according to its creator, making it a bestseller by the stan-dards of Japan's home com-

puter market. Its creator, Takami Akai, hopes to finish an Englishlanguage version of the game this year, for export to the

United States. But the game might raise some eyebrows in the West. grammed to dress in lingerie or sunbathe naked. "I find it very discomfiting," said Etsuko Yamashita, a women's studies professor at Japan Women's University in Tokyo. "It's like incest."

Still, by the standards of
Japanese late-night television

or adult comics, Princess Maker is tame. There are no sexual encounters. Mr Akai believes game's appeal lies not in titillation, but in giving Japanese males a chance to fantasise

Women flee glass ceiling

Evelyn iritani

OMETIMES when she Swisits home, Reiko wants to blurt out: "You're wasting your lives." Instead, she listens to her Japanese friends discussing their favourite res-taurant and their dead-end "office lady" jobs.

Reiko is one of an in-creasing number of young Japanese women who choose to work in the United States or in other Asian countries, to avoid bleak employment pros-

pects at home.
She hopes one day to return to Japan, but to a "career" job, rather than the secretary-stenographercoffee-server position held by many of Japan's 27 million female workers.

Women are often the first to be fired by recession-hit companies, said Masahiko Hata, aged 35, a Japanese accountant in Los Angeles. "When the economy got really bad, firms didn't feel they had the luxury to be they had the luxury to be politically correct."

Japanese women still en-counter a thick glass celling in business and politics. accounting for 7.9 per cent of Japan's administrative and managerial workers, compared with 40 per cent in the US.

The result has been an exdus of talented, career-

Many Japanese initially come to the US to study. Others leave out of frustrution at a corporate culture which has traditionally stifled individuality and

creativity.
Many will never return to Japan — because of the opportunities overseas, the chance that they will meet and marry Americans, and the difficulties they would face as Japanese who had stepped off the traditional

career path. Reiko is appalled by what she hears about the Japunese job market. "A friend of mine recently applied for a job at a good Japanese called Princess Maker, which | The girl character is depicted | about conquering the one | whether she had a boygives the player control over | in sexy, wide-eyed comictivities, hobbies and | book style, and can be pro- | the shots — the home. — AP. | geles Times.

open our doors too wide."
His government is gener-

of the least corrupt in India.

where the past five years have seen a degradation of

But some critics say the fas-

tidious and slightly dour Mr

Basu has never escaped his middle-class roots. The son of

an affluent doctor, he joined the Communist Party of Great

Britain while studying law at Middle Temple before the second world war.

After his return, he was the

public life.

## Seoul urges US patrol as North crosses line

Andrew Higgins in Hong Kong

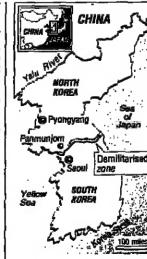
OUTH KOREA has asked Washington to and Control System (Awac) aircraft to patrol the peninsula, the South Korean news agency reported last night. after North Korea sent troops into the demilitarised zone between the two countries for the third time since Friday. Escalating its challenge to fragile peace along the cold war's last serious faultline, the North Koreans moved into the buffer strip yester-day, armed with mortars and

beavy machine-guns.

The operation, lasting two and half hours, was the largest of the three incursions so far by the North Korean People's Army into the de-militarised zone, a strip of land fixed at the end of the The United States, which

has played down the risk of renewed conflict on the divided peninsula, faced mounting pressure to make a strong show of resolve, much as it did last month during tension between China and Talwan. The South Korean news

agency Yonliap reported that officials representing Seoul and Washington were discussing the Awacs request. North Korea announced on sion at Panmunjom. But Thursday it would no longer South Korea put the number



obey the rules of the 1953 at mistice agreement that ended a three-year conflict in which about 4 million people died, but which left the Korean The 1953 accord bans heavy weapons from a 2.5-mile-wide buffer zone and allows each side to send only 35 military police armed with pistols into a joint security area at Pan-

munjom, 30 miles north of the South Korean capital. Seoul. The US said no more than 180 North Korean troops were involved in vesterday's incur

at 300-400. The government of President Kim Young-sam, tainted by the death of a student protester and corrup-tion, has used rising tension to rally support before parliamentary elections this week More than 500,000 troops in South Korea have been placed on their highest level of alert on their highest level of alert for 15 years. A US military spokesman said the situation along the border was "tense and dangerous", but there had been no significant troop

> The North Korean troops arrived in 12 trucks yesterday evening at Panmunjom — a popular destination for South orean daytrippers — and left without incident. North Korea has accuse South Korea of preparing to attack and has said hostilities

expected to behave — obedi-ent servants of men," Masako

Fujii, a woman colleague of

Yoshihiro's, said. She added: "We women are

site added: "we women are still struggling in this office against the role of perpetual tea-makers; that's still how modern men prefer us."

The head of one company producing the so-called "de-

velopmental" games also con-

ceded that men who had en-

joyed virtual success playing the games might not find it so

Some sociologists have

gone further and complained

that the games are built

are now inevitable.
"If the Kim Young-sam ring provokes a war like a new-born puppy that is too young to be afraid of a tiger, our people and the People's Army will mercilessly smash the ag-gressors." North Korea's state-run radio warned.
The rhetoric and daily in-

seen less as a prelude to war than a risky diplomatic gam-bit to force Washington to recognise Pyongyang and enter direct talks on a formal peace treaty to end the 1950-53 war.

Leader comment, page 8 Pass Notes, G2 page 8

march of progress in the Windsor family.

## Model Marxist may pose as India's saviour

Suzanne Goldenberg in Calcutta meets the honest though uncharismatic octogenarian premier of West Bengal, who is being urged to take a being urged to take on the prime minister in the coming election

corruption scandals and internal feuding, an octoge-narian communist has emerged as a potential sav-iour, held in equally high es-teem by captains of industry and the champions of the

He is Jyoti Basu, aged 82, a capable rather than a charismatic politician who for 19 years has been the Commu-nist Party of India (Marxist) chief minister of West Bengal. While the country has produced several leaders with mass regional appeal, Mr Basu is widely viewed as the single politician with the national standing to take on the prime minister, P. V. Nar-asimha Rao, in general elec-tions this month and next, and he has been entreated to

declare himself. Even if he does not put himself forward, Mr Basu could be the kingmaker should a collection of regional and left-wing parties, the National Front-Left Front alliance, do well in the elections.

Although Mr Basu has shunned the usual myth-making of Indian politics - the giant cut-outs, the projection of politicians as the mums and dads of a nation — and never sought power at the national level, outside his na-

has a strong following. Surabhi Bannerjee, an English professor who is writ-ing an authorised biography, said: "He is the ideal embodiment of communist ideals. So

far, I haven't met anyone who has said anything adverse about Jyoti Basu. Even ordinary people, they all have the image that Jyoti Basu is above board."

his aversion to press intru-sion into the lives of his businessman son and the three granddaughters on whom the usually impassive politician dotes. Apart from a media splash

respects his privacy.
So far, he says, he is not interested in becoming prime

prime minister.

S INDIA'S political partitive West Bengal, or even lives of West Bengal's villag-ties self-destruct amid among non-left-wingers, he ers, who make up 70 per cent ers, who make up 70 per cent of the state's 65 million people. Far-reaching land of elected panchayats (village councils) have given the rural poor a voice in their destiny. "Twe laid a foundation stone,"

She attributes his popular-ity to his probity and his mys-tique. Mr Basu is known for

last year, when one grand-daughter entered a beauty contest, the press generally

parties don't have the strength. We don't take it seriously when people say why don't I become prime minister. What can one man

But he acknowledges that the prospects for the NFLF would improve enormously if they could project someone as Although he has been a communist from more than 50

years, his style is moderation rather than revolution. of West Bengal. We are part of India, one unit of India. We are bound by law and a lot of restrictions. We can't have a socialist programme, or even a social democratic programme. We can't bring about radical changes, but we can give a much better government."

His tenure should be foreign investment.

judged, he said, on the changes he has brought to the Lenin and Karl Marx streets

gotiate traffic-clogged streets.

The government has dropped the hammer and sickle in favour of billboard siogans, such as: "The Left Front government is deter-

mined to develop West Bengal industrially." Mr Basu says his version of liberalisation is far more cautious than the reforms the rest of India embraced in. 1991.

'My left party and other left parties don't have the strength. We don't take it seriously when people say why don't I become prime minister.

In profile . . . Jyoti Basu. caught in his younger days

And within the last few years he has started to turn Calcutta around, erasing years of squalor and neglect. The eight-hour power cuts have become a distant memory, and people now remi-nisce fondly about a tele phone system so notorious for its failures during the monsoon season that Calcuttans erected a memorial to the

which once resembled moonscapes have been mended. In September 1994 he did another apparent about-face, introducing a new industrial policy that actively courted

What can one man do?'

You have to have a policy by which you can create an internal market. We are not South Korea or Taiwan. India is huge. If you can create a market with land reforms and

lone voice of the left for several years, in hiding from the British and later, jailed by the government of newly inde-pendent India. It was while he was on the run that the enduring anglophile finally learnt Bengali.
After 19 years, there are signs of discontent with his government, especially among urban voters and

members of his own party who are unhappy with his free market enthusiasm.

But be remains unassailable. Virtually everyone expects his government to be returned to power in the state assembly elections which will

be held in West Bengal on May 2 and May 7 — even the Congress (I) party which has formed national governments for most of India's history.

"Give us another five years and may be the five years."

and maybe the death or retirement of Jyoti Basu, and retrement of Jyon Bass, and then maybe, maybe we will come," said Saugata Roy, a leading figure in the West Bengali Congress (I) party.

"We are not the republic of West Bengal. We are part of The fact that the present Prince Edward speaks dead telephone.

The homeless have been so warmly of his greedy, racist and fascist bundled off the pavements of central Calcutta, and roads great-aunt is a moving tribute to the onward

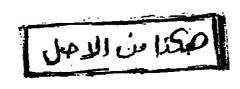
Paul Foot on the royals



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Rifkind bo

Warlord

US to evacuate foreigners from besieged embassy

## Warlords rampage in Liberian capital

Philip van Niekerk in Monrovia

HE United States gov ernment prepared to evacuate dozens of foreign nationals from war in the Liberian capital yesterday amid intense combat between rival warlord factions which reduced the city to anarchy.

As buildings in Monrovia burned, tens of thousands of people streamed into the diplomatic enclave of Mamba or the southern tip of the city, seeking refuge in the US embassy compound. Looting combatants even advanced on this traditional safe haven, and a compound of the United Nations observer mission was

Dudley Sims, the US embassy spokesman, said more than 40 British, American, Irish, and other nationals had sought refuge inside the compound. The airport terminal was burning and all roads out of the city were closed.

Helicopters and boats seem the only options for any evacuation. However, three helicopters at the airport, lent by the US to Ecomog, the West African peacekeeping force in Liberia, are understood to

Hundreds of armed youths



stop the looting in most cases they were not even present. There were reports late yes-terday that Ecomog tanks were finally being deployed in the town centre; this was too late to give the destruction

late to stop the destruction.

The battle began in the early hours of Saturday, when police and fighters loyal to the warlords Charles Taylor and Alhaji Kromah stormed the stronghold of a dissident faction leader, Roo-sevelt Johnson. The ruling council of state had ordered police to arrest Gen Johnson on charges of murder after a clash with militia rivals.
Although Gen Johnson's

headquarters in the suburb of Finko was overrun early yes-terday by fighters from Mr Hundreds of armed youths Taylor's National Patriotic rampaged through central Front of Liberia (NPFL), Monrovia, sacking the city, members of his Krahn ethnic Ecomog troops did nothing to group put up stiff opposition

elsewhere in the city. Neither side appeared to have total control as street battles raged. Krahn members of the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) and the Liberia Peace Committee, another signatury to the now collapsed peace accord signed last August, threw in their lot with Gen

Mr Taylor's forces launched a ferocious onlaunched a ferocious onslaught on the Barclay training centre in central Monrovia, the military barracks
which is the home of the AFL
militia. Witnesses said the
barracks was hit yesterday by
rocket-propelled grenades.
The thud of water and rocketfire was heard outside the
barracks throughout the day.
Plumes of black smoke
hung over the city. People

hung over the city. People gathered under roadside shelters, huddling together during occasional wayward bursts from an AK-47,

Mr Taylor, a member of the council of state, who launched Liberia's civil war on Christmas Eve 1989, de-nied that militia rivalry was at the root of the fighting. "This government, and not Mr Taylor of the NPFL, will

do all it can to bring the situa-tion under control and have General Johnson arrested," he said yesterday. Gen Johnson refused to

turn himself in, saying the police were biased and had been infiltrated by the NPFL.



Tears for the dead . . . A woman who survived the 1994 massacre of over 12,000 mostly Tutsis in the Gikongoro area of Rwanda breaks down at a

### Rifkind boosts Latin link

Diplomatic Editor

RITAIN'S dismal per-formance in selling its goods to Latin America is to be given a high-profile shove this week as the Foreign Secretary. Malcolm Rifkind, flies out to talk trade in one of the world's most economically dynamic regions.

Mr Ritkind, visiting Mexico. Brazil and Bolivia, will be telling his hosts that Britain wants to sell more to them. But he faces a tough task in convincing businessmen at home that he is not urging

Officials in Whitehall despair of Britain's poor showing in Latin America, where — at 1.6 per cent — it has the smallest market share of all the Group of Seven (G7) key industrialised countries.

British exports have grown by a solid 66 per cent since 1991. But continent-wide Germany sells more than three times as much, and nearly four times in Brazil. Overail.

Latin America now figures prominently in the Government's attempts to pursue a global foreign policy — part of its effort to focus on emerging markets and move beyond

politically driven obsessions with with Europe. Mr Rifkind's will be the fourth visit to the region by a foreign secretary in the past five years, compared with

five in the preceding 20 years. Diplomats and businessmen say political and economic changes have created a far more favourable environ-

"Latin America has woken un to the fact that free trade is a good thing," Ian Harding of the government-backed Latin American Trade Group said. "It has democratised itself

and privatised itself, by and large. Now the 17 countries we handle are what you could describe as democracies. Be-

the market is dominated by the troops are back in the bar-the United States. the troops are back in the bar-racks and we believe and racks and we believe and hope they are going to stay

> Exports lag far behind the potential of the second-fastest area of world growth after the Pacific Rim. Yet in Mexico Britain is the second-biggest overseas investor after the US. A further £2 billion of investments are held in Brazil.

Last year the Foreign Office and the Department of Trade and industry launched the Link into Latin America campaign to raise the region's profile, but it has made little headway, partly because ment for British business — many companies suffered in though cultural and linguistic factors, habit and prejudice remain serious harriers.

Headway, partly because in the debt crises of the late 1970s and early 1980s. Mexico's peso collapse was another blow.

"The good news hasn't yet filtered through to British companies," Mr Harding said. "Yes they have privatised, yes they have deregulated, no there are no currency con-trols, tariffs have come down. Industries in Latin America used to be terribly ringfenced fore, there were a vast num-ber of military regimes. Now has disappeared."

#### Barbed reminders of wartime relocation

The 'internment' of Japanese-Americans still pricks US consciences, writes

| jority of 5-4 that detention of the 110,000 Japanese-Americans and surcass was a military necessity. Although jurists have deviated by barbed wire. They still pricks US consciences, writes

Christopher Reed in Manzanar Camp

United States' most notorious "concentration" | miles from Los Angeles, has been disturbed by a heated debate between apologists camp lie brooding against the magnificent backdrop of Cali-fornia's 13,000ft snow-capped

Sierra Nevada mountains The site, officially Man-zanar Relocation Centre, has long been shorn of the bar-racks where 10,000 Japanese-Americans — two-thirds of them US citizens - lived dur-ing the second world war. There remain two pagoda style stone sentry posts, an auditorium, and a derelict or-

namental garden. At the entrance a US Park Service brass plaque says that "hysteria, racism and eco-nomic exploitation" caused the internment, and that Manzanar was a "concentra-tion camp". Someone has chipped off the first "c". Manzanar's long slumber in the remote Owens Valley, 250

and revisionists. The parks department

plans to restore parts of it as a reminder of what Congres called an injustice to Jane nese-Americans. But many ocal people and critics els where are outraged by what they regard as Uncle Sam's self-flagellation.

"It's not Uncle Sam bu Uncle Sucker," fumes Lillian Baker, who published her third book on the subject, American-Japanese Reloca-tion in World War II: Fact.

Fiction and Fallacy, in 1994. 'Manzanar was not a concentration camp or an intern ment camp. That would be il legal. Remember, the US supreme court ruled that reloation was constitutional." Ms Baker is correct in say-ing the court ruled by a maplored that decision, it was never reversed.

detainees' support groups and miles away.
politicians, such as the California mufornian congressman Robert seum in Independence has an Matsui, a detainee as a child,

plored that decision, it was say immates were often seen it. But Manzanar immates were reversed. She has also infuriated extown of Independence, six sary of Pearl Harbor, and the

exhibition of Manzanar days. who helped win \$20,000 | Thousands of Americans and (£13,000) compensation for foreigners visit it annually on each internee's "human their way to Death Valley to suffering".

Manzanar inmates rioted on the first anniversary of Pearl Harbor, and the sentries shot two people dead'

Owens Valley people, many of them elderly with vivid war memories, say the de-tainees were not made to suffer and were free to leave. "The authorities are pre-

senting a completely false pic ture and it insults America, one says. Locals deny the official ac-count that eight watch-towers graphs showing barbed wire at head-height, armed military police guards, and six of the eight towers with searchlights visible.

"It was definitely a prison set-up," says the museum di-rector, Bill Michael. "These people were incar-cerated, they couldn't leave.

Settlers and

PLO held talks

Jewish settlers and Palestin-

ian officials have held infor-mal talks on coexistence for

two years, officials from the two sides confirmed

yesterday.
Sufian Abu Zaydeh, head of

the Israel desk for the Pales-tinian self-rule Authority, said President Yasser Arafat

was aware of the talks. Nei-

ther side would would name

settlers involved in the dis-

**Auschwitz protest** 

A group of Polish nationalists

lemonstrated at the weekend

at the former Nazi death

camp Auschwitz demanding that Jewish organisations

should be barred from having

a say over the site's adminis-

Saudi Arabia and Qatar yes-

terday agreed to end a border

dispute which has strained

relations between the two

rich Gulf Arab states and led

to armed clashes. - Reuter.

**Border deaths** 

Saudi-Qatar deal

The Japanese-Americans seen outside the camp were volunteers sent to help with the harvest in Idaho and Montana or to farm in inland states, he says. By 1945, 6,000 inmates had left Manzanar. 'Locals saw those people move through, but they were being transported." Ms Baker says the barbed

wire was for cattle and the towers for spotting fires. She has read hundreds of documents since the authorities began to release them in 1980. Her main argument is that lapanese-Americans often had joint citizenship and many were supporters of Japan's emperor, so they What she cannot explain is that until 1945 none went

## French heartthrob rails at Hollywood invasion

Gallic 'traitors' have sold out for money, one star says. Alex Duval Smith reports

film star Jean-Paul Belmondo lashed out yesterday against the power of Hollywood, and the cultural "traitors" from France who are on their knees to United States

film distributors. In an interview to mark his 40-year career. Mr Belmondo lambasted the mayor of Paris, Jean Ti-beri, for being "incompe-tent" and sprang to the defence of his new film. Désiré, given limited distri-bution at the expense of

Disney's Toy Story.
The actor, aged 62, is still considered a heartthrob nearly 40 years after he made his name in Jean-Luc Godard's Breathless. He said: French produc-ers, while claiming to be

the defenders of French cinema, are on their knees to the Americans." He said it was a scandal that Desire, in which he co-

stars with Béatrice Dalle and Fanny Ardant, will be released on Wednesday in just six cinemas, while Toy Story, released a fortnight ago, is showing on more than 500 of France's 2.000

screens.

Mr Belmondo, recently

the arts but also the homeless". After a cinema career in-cluding Breathless in 1959 and Jacques Deray's Borsa-lino in 1969, Mr Belmondo THE veteran French érables, appeared to accuse film star Jean-Paul Mr Tiberi of philistinism. recently made a theatrical "I have just come back from the Champs-Elysées,

the most beautiful avenu in the world, defaced by sculptures exhibited by the City of Paris," Mr Bel-mondo told the Journal du He said he had com-The Americans do plained about the distribu-

not defend our films, they buy them for remakes. It is shameful to kneel at their feet'

The open-air exhibition. part of a city arts policy to popularise sculpture, features works by Ernst, Pi-casso and Giacometti. But Mr Belmondo said he was shocked not to see more works by French artists, including his father. Paul

He said his lawyer had telephoned the mayor. "who, of course, hides pathetically behind his selec-Mr Belmondo, recently tion committee. He is in-seen in Britain in Les Mis-competent, not only over

comeback with a world tour of Cyrane. He recently went into hiding for four months after collapsing from exhaustion. His return coincides with a debate in e about the growth of multíplex cinema

> tion plans for the new film and had been told by its producer that it was a television film. "Désiré is nothing of the "Desire is nothing of the kind. I accepted the role because it is a real and a good film," Mr Belmondo said, apparently insulted at having to compete with Toy Story, the first full-length film to be made entirely by

computer animation. He went on: "Not only do the Americans not defend our films, they buy them up just for remakes. It is shameful to kneel at their feet. Today, if you don't blow up planes or build-ings, you are told you're movie."
"Producers and distribu-

tors have all the control. We have got to the stage where we are at the mercy of their goodwill. I doubt whether a new Godard could make another Breathless in this climate,"

Mr Belmondo, whose career was marked by a television documentary shown last night and a book, said his life had been an endless stroke of good luck.

"One minute, there I was reading Cinema Monde and admiring pictures of Gina, Sophia and Brigitte Bardot. Then suddenly, I was hold-ing them in my arms," be said.

#### News in brief

#### Nkomo says whites created Aids to exterminate blacks

BREAKING with local convention, Zimbabwe's vicepresident and former guer-rilla leader, Joshua Nkomo (right), announced on Satur-day that his son, Ernest Thutani, had died of Aids, a dis-ease he said was "harvested by whites to obliterate blacks". In an emotional graveside speech, Mr Nkomo, aged 79, contended that whites had in-vented Aids to exterminate blacks. "Unfortunately, it backfired, because they too are dying of it, but still they have the knowledge of its ori-

But they just do not want to share that knowledge." The address reflected the lingering bitterness of the bush war waged by the black majority in the 1970s against

white minority rule. The speech marked a miletone in public openness about the disease. At least three cabinet ministers have died of Aids, but each time secondary infections were given as the cause of death. An estimated 10 per cent of Zimbabwe's population are infected with the HIV virus gins and how it can be cured. that causes Aids. - AP.



#### Montserrat prays as volcano heads for climax

when the volcano became

housands of residents of | homes on the southern side | the tiny Caribbean of the island on Wednesday island of Montserrat when the volcano became crowded into churches yes—active again. They are erday to pray for an end to the explosive rumblings of the Chances Peak volcano, which may be heading for what the Montserrat Volcanic Observatory called a "climactic eruption".

More than 4,000 people —
in a population of 9,500 —

were evacuated from their

exclusion from a financial do-

nors' conference in Brussels

next week, international me-

The Office of the High Rep-

diators said yesterday.

active again. They are spending Easter as they spent Christmas and the New Year, living in tents and shelters provided by the colonial government. A two-square-mile area on the eastern side of the

volcano has been declared "extremely dangerous" and not to be entered under | months. - Reuter.

Tribunal in The Hague. The Bosnian Serbs are

keeping 16 POWs in defiance

of the peace deal and instruc-tions that they either release

Bosnian Serbs give ground on POWs

OSNIAN Serbs have acted over 16 files of evidence on prisoners of war but still face United Nations War Crimes

resentative to Bosnia said the Bosnian Serbs had handed they should face prosecution

volcano since Wednesday and on Saturday it threw ash 30,000ft into the air. The volcano became active last July after lying

dormant for a century. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London said contingency plans for evacuating the island

for war crimes. But of the 18

three concerned detainees

whose captivity was previ-

ously unknown.

The cat-and-mouse game be-tween illegal Mexican immi-grants and US border patrol agents claimed seven lives at the weekend when a pick-up truck crashed near a check point, Christopher Reed in Los Angeles writes. It was the same spot, the town of Temecula 60 miles north of the bordossiers only 13 relate to known POWs. The other der, where last week a chase of another truck began. That chase ended in a videotaped police beating.

Arson in Bahrain The Serbs are still deemed to be in breach of the peace

rain yesterday, the latest in a string of arson attacks in the Gulf Arab state, the official News Agency Gulf reported. - Reuter.

#### Pope's message

The Pope led Catholics in Eas-ter celebrations yesterday and prayed for a victory over death in Bosnia, Ireland, the Middle East, Algeria and the world's other troublespots. The 75-year-old Pontiff looked less weary as he addressed a crowd of 100,000 people in St Peter's Square than he had during Good Friday rit-

Defector resettles A Damascus-based former Iraqi military intelligence chief has decided to settle in Jordan, Jordanian officials

#### said yesterday. --- Reuter. **Chechen fighting** Russian and Chechen forces

fought for control of isolated villages despite a declaration by President Boris Yeltsin that his forces had halted operations, Interfax news agency said yesterday. - Reuter.

#### Ecuador avalanche An avalanche buried at least 20 mountain climbers staying in a shelter on the volcano Cotopaxi on Saturday, killing at east six of them, authorities

#### in Ecuador said. — AP. Rio grand for sex

A poll in Rio de Janeiro's Globo newspaper yesterday showed that 48 per cent claimed to have sex at least three times a week and 17 per cent said they made love to their partners once a day. Respondents also said each session lasted between 30 and Explosives in booby-trapped cigarette packets set off three fires damaging shops in Bah-

## Why is everyone talking Yakult?

Nov. Esp.

## The Guardian

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## **Security or** paranoia? Why new MI5 needs watching

THE SECURITY Service, better known as MI5, will have a new director-general tomorrow. Stephen Lander, the agency's former director of Irish counter-terrorism, will take over the mantle left by the formidable Stella Rimington. It will be a hard act to follow. Mrs Rimington, the first head of MI5 to be officially identified and the first female head of the agency, proved to be an accomplished Whitehall infighter, even though, as far as the Home Office and ministers were concerned, she was largely pushing at open doors. During her five-year tenure of office, MI5 took away from the Metropolitan Police Special Branch lead responsibility for countering IRA-sponsored terrorism on the mainland. It also took on responsibility for "protective security advice" both to the Government and to what MI5's new brochure describes as "those elements of commerce and industry whose services and products are of critical national economic or civil importance". The new Security Service Act now going through Parliament for the first time extends MI5's responsibility beyond the protection of "national security" to combating "serious crime". The bill adopts an extremely broad definition of serious crime borrowed from the 1985 Interception of Communications Act. It includes offences involving "conduct by a large number of persons in pursuit of a common purpose". This term might include all sorts of groups. including those protesting against the Newbury bypass. and animal rights activists.

Even before the breakdown in the IRA ceasefire, MI5 insisted that only a very few of its agents would support the law enforcement agencies — the police and Customs — in fighting serious crime. But the new bill is an enabling act, giving MI5 wide scope in the future. And the arrangements for co-operation between MI5 and the police remain far from clear. Meanwhile, MI5 has kept hold of its role protecting national security against home-grown "subversion". Its new brochure says MI5 is interested in the activities of the subversive elements, not in the groups they seek to penetrate". It avoids the question of how it targets allegedly subversive individuals without at the same time gathering information on other members of the group.

And now the police are fighting back. After years privately criticising MI5 for the lack of hard intelligence on the IRA, the police have persuaded ministers (and Jack Straw, the shadow home secretary) of the need for draconian new powers. The Prevention of Terrorism (Additional Powers) Act, rushed through Parliament at the end of last week, allows the police to randomly search people and property in "designated areas" without any suspicion of their being terrorists. For the first time, it will become an offence not to agree to being searched. This week, chief constables will meet to consider a proposal that Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist branch should take the lead role in operations against anti-road and other environmental protests.

It seems we are drifting into a climate of paranola over security, with serious implications for civil liberties and the principle of democratic accountability. The Labour fronthench appears desperate to avoid the charge of being "soft" on security and law and order. But even ministers cannot possibly know what the security and intelligence services are up to. The devil is in the detail, as, in a different context, the Scott arms-to-Iraq inquiry so clearly demonstrated. A line has to be drawn establishing clearly-defined limits on the functions, powers and activities of the security and intelligence services. Clear lines of accountability should be

Stephen Lander could get off to a good start by abandoning MI5's anti-subversion role. MPs should demand a proper parliamentary committee, appointed by the Commons, to oversee the activities of the agencies. And the Government should appoint a cabinet minister with special responsibility for security and intelligence matters. There are few areas where eternal vigilance is so necessary.

#### Pyongyang's play

But who is the real audience?

NORTH KOREA'S unsettling manoeuvres in the De militarised Zone (DMZ) recall a similar performance just recently in another East Asian tension spot. Then it was Beijing, trying to ratchet up the pressure on President Lee Teng-hui in the Taiwanese elections. Now it is Pyongyang, seeking to destabilise President Kim Young sam ahead of Thursday's National Assembly elections. The Chinese leadership, poorly placed now to urge caution on the North Koreans, may have additional reason to regret their forceful tactics which only brought out more votes for Mr Lee. Pyongyang's performance may have a similar effect in mobilising conservative support for Mr Kim's ruling party. But there is another more disturbing comparison. China's posturing in the Taiwan Straits seemed in part to reflect army pressure upon the Communist Party leadership to act more forcefully. North Korea's action hints more strongly at tension between the army and the party and

must add an extra element of unease. The crisis began with a statement issued on March 29 by the North Korean armed forces vice-minister Marshal Kim Kwang-chin suggesting that the 1953 armistice had become obsolete. Pyongyang regularly complains of South Korea's alleged warlike preparations whenever Seoul conducts military exercises. But, except 20 years ago during the famous "axe incident", Pyongyang has made a point of observing the restrictions placed on the joint security area at Panmunjom. And it has never gone quite so far as to suggest that the two Koreas are actually "on the eve of war". Marshal Kim's statement contains a still more remarkable feature: it refers to South Korean suggestions that the damage caused by last year's disastrous floods could cause "someone to collapse" and it complains that Seoul has "dared to vilify our supreme leadership." North Korean readers of this statement will have no trouble in reading between the lines: they are being informed of speculation in the south that the Dear Leader Kim Jong-il is in political trouble and that the succession to his father the late Kim Il-sung is not completely secure. Even to hint at such an idea must be regarded, according to the narrow rules of North Korean discourse, as an amazing admission. These suggestions from the south are sup-posed to be a "provocation" against the north, but if so who is being provoked? The real crisis may be less in the DMZ than in the workers' paradise of Pyongyang.



Letters to the Editor

## The Church on Carey Street

of Canterbury quite depressing (Outsider at helm of "wak ing giant", April 6). The Church Commissioners may have improved their assets but they will need this income to support the growing num-bers of retiring clergy and their partners. The reduction of their augmentation to dioceses will continue with dev astating impact on those dio-ceses, like my own, with fewer

The Church of England does have a serious credibility problem and it is compounde by an archbishop who, with his growing number of evan-gelical and conservative sup-porters, is leading us further away from the broad, inclusive nature of Anglicanism and failing in three vital

Firstly, the revival of medieval supernaturalism is fail-ing many people in our nation who are seeking to develop a spirituality which seriously engages with contemporary life. Secondly, it is failing many people, including many (Rev) Ian Stubbs. of its own clerical and lay members, by refusing to face Oldham OL8 4BG.

minority issue: it affects those of us who are parents, friends, colleagues and neighbours of lesbian and gay people, and growing numbers of others who are choosing non-traditional forms of family. Thirdly, the Church fails to show that it has any serious contribution to make to the great questions of public life.

Many evangelicals have dif-ficulty with issues about which the Lord has not left us the benefit of his thinking — hence their obsession with personal morality. The Church of England, with its historic concern for all souls, its embrace of diver-

sity and its geographical spread, could offer open spaces for many more people to explore their questions and doubts. To do this, it would need to help them to belong and be less concerned with right behaviour and belief. Sadly, its obsession with vig-our, confidence and profitability may lead it even further away from the majority of the nation's hearts and minds. (Rev) Ian Stubbs.

AM a member of General up to new thinking about Synod and found the inter-human sexuality. This is not a laware of the dilemma he is human sexuality. This is not a laware of the dilemma he is in? On the one hand, he wants friends the Church to conclude the Church to conclude the conclusion of the most of the dilemma he is in? On the one hand, he wants the Church to conclusion that Good the Church to conclusion the conclusion of the dilemma he is in? On the one hand, he wants the Church to conclusion the conclusion of the dilemma he is in? On the one hand, he wants the conclusion of the dilemma he is in? On the one hand, he wants the conclusion of the dilemma he is in? On the one hand, he wants the conclusion of the dilemma he is in? the Church to speak out more strongly on moral issues. On the other, he plans to restore its flagging finances. But can prophecy and profit-making ever be combined?

How, for example, can a Church so dependent upon the support of farmers and landowners — and what its commissioners call "the high qual-ity of the agricultural portfolio" — ever deal with the ethical and spiritual di-mensions of the current cattle crisis? Has it the moral authority to deal with the consequences of so much cruelty arrogance and greed? Rosemary & Jeremy Goring. 12 Keere Street, Lewes,

HE role of Dr Carey as jet-setting mini-Pope is embarrassing. Apart from the wasted funds of his expenses, Britain is in dire need of spiritual assistance, deliverance from materialism and wastage of young people. Let him put our house in order. The Lightship, 82 Bove Town, Glastonbury BA6 8JG.

East Sussex BN7 1TY.

day (April 6): for most of us, it a normal day. It is also ridicu-lous for the Bishop of Coventry to complain that Christians cannot go to church on Good Friday: like everyone else, they can take a day off their holiday entitlement to do

what they want. Nicolas Walter. Rationalist Press Association, 88 Islington High Street, London N1 8EW.

FIND it predictable but laughable that Timothy Kirkhope chooses to criticise the Church of Scotland (Kirk and state in asylum row, April 5). To accuse the Church of Scotland of moralising is a bit much coming from a govern-ment which had called for the Christian Church to give a moral lead. He asks what immigration officers should do if forced by a church minister to stop doing their duty. I would suggest they do for themselves what they want to do to asylum seekers — go home. (Rev) Martyn J Coe. United Reform Church.

29 Cricklewood Road, Mackworth, Derby DE22 4DP.

## How the CSA can help break up your family

COSER Singleton (Letters, nance payment to £4.80 (mostly from the already ther cut lone parents' benefits means-tested money of the 41 for not co-operating with the CSA will mean some parents facing an iniquitous choice between poverty and violence.
To date, 119,000 women have
"disappeared" off benefit
thanks to the CSA. The Gov-

thanks to the CSA. The Gov-ernment, without providing any shred of evidence, says they were "previously fraudu-lent claims" and makes no effort to explain how these women and their children now survive. However, it is much more likely that they feared reprisals from ex-part-ners who blame them, instead of the Government, for their new levels of impoverishment. The CSA coerces mothers into co-operating and then contacts fathers to tell them it was the mother who requested the intervention of the agency

the intervention of the agency to assess and enforce maintenance. Given this promoted culture of division through misinformation, it is not surprising (though still utterly intolerable) that ignorant men react so badly when faced with state-induced destitution.

This month's doubling of the weekly minimum mainte-

means-tested money of the 41 per cent of CSA fathers on benefit) will compound violence and harassment. This is the truth behind the Treasurydriven CSA, which is a tool of this economically and morally bankrupt government. Russell Cavanagh, 21 Falcon Road West, Edinburgh EH10 4AD.

HE total charges for the state supporting a lone mother until her child is 16 made up to Income Support, community charge benefit. Housing Benefit, school dinners and the cost of divorce—amounts to as much as £164,000. Had this sum been offered to stressed parents prior to separation, it could, for 14 to separation, it could, for 14 years, have purchased 24.7 hours of weekly haby-sitting, or home help, with ample change left towards family holidays.

With priorities like this, it is understandable why Britain leads the Purposers lessure of

leads the European league of fatheriess bomes. Eugen Hockenjos.

London N1 0EG.

#### A victim writes

Arape, whilst I was asleep in my own home, perpetuated by a man I knew well, I think creased sentences might en-courage rapists or violent offenders to kill (An unwise move, April 4) sounds like a charter for rapists to set their

The man who raped me had been to prison twice for sex-ual assault on girls on two separate occassions, and is an intelligent, articulate and outwardly charming person. He has not responded to proba-tion initiatives to rehabilitate him, nor been persuaded to desist from sex offending by short spells in prison. The only tenable solution to determined repeat sex offenders is a life sentence.

L for one, would be pleased to see a bit more wet, liberal tongue-biting. Until you have had the violence and terror of having the inside of your body invaded by the aggre-sion of some deranged man's anger, then I don't feel you are qualified to speak. ne and address supplied.



#### $(Maths)^2 \times Berkeley = guilty$

ET'S HAVE less mathema-tist prejudice, please. Your correspondent Ian Katz (April 5), convicts Theodore Kaczynski — the FBI's prime Unabomber suspect — on two counts: he was a mathematicounts: he was a manageman-cian specialising in "the recondite area of so-called complex anaysis"; and he held a temporary position at Berke-ley in the 1960s, a "hotbed of left-wing activism". I've got news for your read-

ers. Complex analysis is taught to every first-year science and engineering stu-dent and has been routinely used for at least a century in thousands of applications in-

cluding, for example, calculating the performance of elec-tric motors. As regards count two, what was mainly exercis ing the vast majority of us at Berkeley in the late 1960s was the Vietnam war. We wanted to stop it in other words, fewer bombs not more. If that is left-wing activism, then let's have more of it.

11 Chartfield Avenue. London, SW15 6DT.

Letters to the Editor may be faxed on 0171 837 4530 or sent by post to 119 Farringdon Road,

to letters@guardian.co.uk.

(April 4) would certainly ring some bells among some of my primary school colleagues. Our most recent sight of an Ofsted inspector's skills Presentation: a one-and-a-

half hour, line-by-line reading of material given as handouts. Preparation: a video interlude in which the tape hadn't been tried beforehand (and no — it didn't work at first). Time-keeping: the inspector was stopped after over-running by 40 minutes. Who will inspect the inspectors? G Scarborough. 65 Haven Lane.

HOW can we take seriously journalists' exposure stories of fraudsters when, ac cording to Roy Greenslade (April 4), these very same journalists spend their working life flddling their expenses and thus defrauding their employers? Philip Knightley. 4 Northumberland Place,

London W2 5BS.

#### Credibility gap | A Country Diary

were definitely odd-one-out. Homer, for instance, could de tect none of the magical quali-ties in their voice. To him, they sounded like the clamour of an army advancing into battle. Even more strange, he reckoned them wicked creatures which flew south in win-ter to wreak destruction upon Africa's pygmies. However, a more typical response is shown in India, where Rajasthani merchants spend a small fortune feeding a wintering flock of several thousand and consider themselves fortunate to do so because of the birds' bighly auspicious status. Even in a secular,

feed our own miniscule population. The species is the common crane and it has returned to

superstition-free zone like Britain it seems this bird can

revive a flicker of ancient awe, for the farmers of East

Norfolk put out potatoes to

YOUR report on the call for BROADLAND, NORFOLK: On cultural drainage and became the abolition of Ofsted this issue, the ancient Greeks extinct in the 17th century. Despite this inadvertent loss, it is easy to see why humans have been compelled by cranes. They are so tall that in in height to the average man. In fact, the scientific name of one species is anthropoides. They are also reputed to be long-lived and, until death separates them, they remain

faithful to a single partner. These anthropic associa-tions are fascinating, but nothing quite inspires me like the sight of the birds themselves flying in to their night-time roost. On my last visit, the sun was already down when I spotwas already down when I spot-ted six pale forms looming over the reed beds. Within a few seconds their powerful rhythmic wing beats had carried them to the heart of the marsh, where they dropped down. And, once out of view, they loosed across the moonlight landscape their haunting crane and it has returned to breed here after an absence of 300 years. Once widespread in British wetlands, they were gradually eliminated by agri-

## A vote to save the party, not the people

#### Endpiece

Roy Hattersley

AST Saturday, this newspaper reported that "friends of Ken-meth Clarke" had claimed that before he capitu-lated to the Prime Minister and accepted the Tory Party's commitment to a referendum on a single currency, "he won serious consessions." In my experience, "friends" who relate senior politicians opinions to newspapers are (like "sources close to") usually the politicians themselves. lor of the Exchequer was the true, though unattributable, source of the notion that the

Cabinet.
John Major is certainly shameless enough to sacrifice what passes for his principles in order to hang onto office until what Harold Wilson once called "the last humiliating moment." He leads the Administration of the Lowest

Prime Minister had bought off the dissentients within his

dum as if they were two sovereign powers negotiating a peace treaty. But I still do not believe that Clarke said it. He is not stupid enough to sug-gest anything so implausible. Consider the principal con-

cession — "a promise from Mr Major that he would not run a jingoistic election cam-paign." And then imagine a perfectly possible scenario for the general election. On the day that Parliament is dis-solved, Labour has a 15 per cent lead in the opinion polls. but the gap narrows during the next two weeks. With 10 days to go, the Opposition is ahead on every issue except tax (where the parties are neck and neck) and Europe which remains a catalyst for Britain's mindless

chauvinism At the Sunday strategy meeting, Tim Bell, assorted Saachis and — for all I know — the ghosts of Coleman, Prentice and Varley, all offer bership of the European Eco-the same advice. "Our one nomic Community on the re-

Common Denominator and will accept whatever humiliation is necessary for his survival. For a month, he has openly bargained with the Chancellor about the referendum of thing."

Chancellor about the referendum of thing."

Chancellor about the referendum of thing."

Chancellor about the prize Minister, is to negotiated terms" — that if queen's head on the bank. Teresa Gorman, Bill Cash and all you want is a test of the notes? If all (or only some) of the other European countries will place my bet.

Once the Cabinet has decided to recommend "yes", but following the larguments the result of the referendum of thing."

Can you imagine John Major replying, "Sorry. Much as I want to remain in office, protect our people from the ravages of socialism and con-tinue to receive invitations to Stamford Bridge and Lord's cricket ground, I can't do it. My hands are tied. I promised Ken Clarke that I would not run a jingoistic campaign." Anyone who believes that such a response is possible misunderstands both John Major's character and the purpose of a referendum.

Referends have nothing to do with democracy and are therefore promoted by politicians who place party advantage above everything else. They are, at least in the British parliamentary system, devices for getting governments out of a hole. I know because, 20 years ago, I was up to my neck in one and learned — as Britain "confirmed its mem-

guide as a quick glance at a chicken's entrails.

There is nothing like a ref-erendum for confirming what the government already knows and providing a "willof the people" argument for pursuing a course which has already been determined. But that exercise has little to do with extending democracy. The Northern Ireland border poll — though an honest and accurate reflection of public opinion — did not keep the six counties in the union. It simply helped the govern-ment to ignore the republican

minority.

But with a referendum on monetary union — arranged solely to give John Major a year's respite from Sir Teddy Taylor — the problem will not be the certainty of the answer but the incomprehensibility of the question. Do you want Britain to participate in a single currency? Or what? At which exchange rate against the Deutchmark? With or —

praisal of the rival arguments but following the briefest in-spection of the political lead-ers who are ranged on each side. In the European referendum of 20 years ago, the ma-jority did not consciously come down in favour of membership on the new terms.
They trusted Wilson and Callaghan, Thatcher and Heath,
Jenkins and Steele more than Jenkins and Steele more than they trusted Benn, Castle. Powell and an assortment of trade union leaders.

The same rules will apply next time. A re-elected Tory government will only hold a

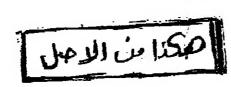
single currency referendum if the Cabinet decides that it wants to join. In those cir-cumstances, John Major, Michael Heseltine, Kenneth Clarke and Malcolm Rifkind will all campaign for a posi-tive result. Take it from me, so will Tony Blair, Gordon Brown and Robin Cooke not to mention (for, by then, it will not be necessary) Paddy Ashdown. Ranged against them will be Michael Portillo.

Once the Cabinet has de-cided to recommend "yes", the result of the referendum will not be in doubt. So the objection to holding one has nothing to do with the fear of the wrong result. Nor would it be an affront to our consti-tution. A cross on a different tunon. A cross on a numerous sort of ballot paper — for or against a paragraph of mumbo-jumbo — would no more diminish democracy than it would enhance it.

The referendum to which

Kenneth Clarke has agreed is objectional because it is a deceit — party management portrayed as high principle. public relations dressed up to look like respect for the popu-lar will. John Major's craven reluctance to square up to the rencrance to square up to the Eurosceptics represented as a bold new initiative in responsive government. The idea is built on total disregard for the basic issues of policy, which ought to motivate politicians. A referendum would be the wardward of ware and the statement of wardward and the statement of the st be the product of pure cyni-cism. We ought to oppose it because there is too much cynicism about these days.





#### Chernobyl Diary

#### **James Meek**

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* ASHA'S mum lives in the zone. It's handy, it means he can drop in for a chat and a cup of tea while the visitors he drives around are gawking at the human beings who dwell in the fallout-hot footprint of the world's worst nuclear accident. When Andrei, the guide, and I stopped by to pick him up, Sasha's mum was whitewashing the ceil-ing. She's 76 years old and as hard as nails.

Sasha and Andrei were downcast, partly because of exhaustion from taking visitor after visitor on the Chernobyl radiation safari without a proper break —

sometimes Andrel has to sleep in the back of their battered old Volga sedan — and partly because of what Sasha reckons is the miserly share they get of the \$120 (plus \$11 for lunch) each foreign visi-

tor pays. Sasha's mum introduced herself as Granny Motya. Sasha urged us to join him in eating the fresh-laid eggs. Andrei kept him company but I didn't because I was trying to keep faith with a solemn promise I made to myself before entering the 30-kilometre zone around the reactor not to eat anything there. When it turned out the eggs were raw, so much the better. Sasha and Andrei sucked

morosely on the mud-flecked eggs while Granny Motya had another go at the for-eigner. Glasses appeared and clear spirit was poured into them up to the brim. She laid out salt, thick slices of white pork fat, raw garlic and bread. A classic Ukrainian meal, particularly since the spirit was not vodka but home-distilled samogon and a single glass is enough to set you up for the next eight hours. It also turned out to be enough to remove inhibi-tions about eating zone food and after a while I popped a clove, salted a crust and got

wired into the pork fat.
"This didn't come from your own pig, did it?" "Yes. said Granny Motya proudly. Well, there you go. At least their government had declared the villagers' milk fit to drink — like ours said it was perfectly safe to eat

A neighbour dropped by to share a humanitarian aid lucky bag she'd just been given by a passing American evangelist. There was toothpaste, sbampoo, chocola We saw the evangelist later, eating his \$11-lunch in the Chernobyl canteen. He was the nearest thing to a mutan we saw in the zone: a gigantic man with a supernatural-

Sasha appreciates the effeet the Chernobyl disaster has had on the local wildlife Largely deserted, uncultivated, and completely empty of the weekend hunters who sed to swarm into the area from Kiev, the forests. marshes and heathland around the river Pripyat teem with wild boar, deer. lynx, wolf and beaver. It is ike the dream of a human ity-loathing eco-fanatic, or Tarkovsky's Zone in his film Stolker. After the disast the beasts have lost their

fear of man. Two deer ran across the road in front of our car. Further on, Sasha stopped on the bridge over the canal which carries cooling water from the still working reac-tors. The water was as thick with fish as tadpole soup in a

WE DROVE through the abandoned town of Pripyat, near the reactor complex; 10 years on sturdy saplings are growing in the doorways of the shops. It's a town of mysteries. Who is breaking into the derelict flats and severing the strings of all the pianos the fleeing inhabitants left behind?

The sunshine was brilliant; we rattled off away from the reactors. Andrei pointed out a complex of lykes and barrows on either side of the road: Soviet burial mounds, filled with trees and daches, too radioactive to be left above ground. A little further on were vil-lages which had been razed, nothing but fragments of walls and their stoves left standing. How did they burn woods, looking benignly green under the clear blue sky. But among the pines are dark patches of jagged, black trunk-remnants, trees petrified and ground still sterile, a decade after the monster in reactor number four opened ts jaws once and breathed a hot breath of radiation and fallout downwind. Nature is not invulnerable.

I HEAR WE'RE ALL BEING OFFERED A CUNARD CRUSE. 1/ ------. جنوبي



## Gospel according to the party line

#### Commentary

#### Mark Lawson

N THE currently popular movie, Dead Man Walking, the Catholic nun and the death-row inmate who are its protagonists fall to discussing scripture, but the convict soon retreats. "Never get into Bible quotin' with a nun," he admonishes himself. Proving even braver, Tony Blair has chosen to get into Bible quo-tin' with Baroness Thatcher, Ann Widdecombe, Brian Mawhinney and others in the reli-gious wing of the Conservative

timed for yesterday's signifi-cant day in the Christian calendar, the Labour leader disussed his religious beliefs. The key phrases in his credo were: "My view of Christian values led me to oppose what I perceived to be the narrow view of self-interest that Conservatism — particularly his modern, more rightwing form represents. Tories, I think conservative commentary on have too narrow a definition of the Biblical injunction: "Let self-interest. They fail to look he who bath two coats give

across politics — for example, most Reaganites were committed Christians, while very many leading British trade unionists were devout Catholics — so Blair's claims have prompted a familiar burst of annotation of parables, parsing of psalms as the rival parties try to sign up God as a

Deliberately or not, the Labour leader's declaration of labour leaner's declaration of faith stands as a direct chal-lenge to Margaret Thatcher's 1989 address, while prime min-ister, to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, in which she explained the Christian basis of her own policies. On another occasion, Mrs
Thatcher—sn apostate Methodist who came to see her
adopted Church of England as an enclave of lefties - offered the inspired analysis that the to help the victim on the Jeri-cho road because he was rich: his personal enterprise put him in the position to buy the oil and bandages and meet the inn bill.

Blair's theological justification of New Labour — Ann Widdecombe, once an Anglican and now a Catholic, has offered a beyond to the community and one to him that hath none". the individual's relationship While some have seen this as

with the community." Religious belief has always been the redistribution of wealth ecumenically distributed the junior Home Office minis the redistribution of wealth, the junior Home Office minister stresses that the onus is on the individual to give up the spare garment of their own vo-lition; there is no suggestion she reminds us, that the cloth-ing should be confiscated by Some enterprising religious

publisher might usefully put together a little volume of Tory commentaries on the parables. For surely it is more than likely that the man with two costs only had two because of competition in the cause of compension in the Palestinian garment industry. And Lazarus, if you think about it, was clearly resuscitated not by organised state medical apparatus but by a form of private medicine, which is obviously one in the eye for the NHS.

Religion frequently proves

to be a prism for a worship per's deepest personal con-cerns and politicians are no exception. Jonathan Raban, in a brilliant commentary on Thatcher's Church of Scotland address, pointed out her obsession with the fact that Christ, according to theology "chose" to die on the cross. She seemed to see His passion and death as a grand version of her own scheme to maximise alterna tives for home-owners, parents

Blair's comments yesterday on the Passion are perhaps equally revealing of his own

tary presents the Easter story as a tragedy of the agontes of decision-making and rule. He focuses on Christ in the garden of Gethsemane, praying to "let this cup pass from me" but knowing that it was His (Blair's word) "duty" to carry

on with the mission.

He is most fascinated, though, by the figure of Pon-tius Pilate. He is not alone in this. The Roman governor has become something of a modern icon - his ancient ques-tion, "What is truth?", bubbles underneath almost every as-pect of contemporary culture — but the Labour leader presents him as a test-case in cri-

"One can envisage Pilate's advisors telling him of the risks." Blair says. "Warning him not to cause a riot or inflame Jewish opinion. It is a timeless parable of political life ... his is the struggle between what is right and what

In short, Blair sees the Crucifixion as a failure of party management

is expedient that has occurred throughout history."
Yet here Blair is putting a personal — and, perhaps, rather revealing — spin on the story. For Matthew — the gosstory. For Matthew — the gos-pel which (as Blair points out) has most coverage of these events — makes no mention at all of Pilate having advisors, Indeed, the evangelist clearly states that it was Pilate him-self who came up with the idea of offering the people a choice between releasing Jesus or Ba-rabbas, thus becoming by no means the first leader in his-tory to seek to solve his prob-

Roman governor's ear: "I agree with you, PP. The geezer's almost certainly inno-

the high priest silkily whis pers: There is, Governor, the referendum option. Constitutionally, you get to release a prisoner today. Offer them this Jesus or Barabbas, Barab bas has got such high nega-tives, he's off the scale. You think they're gonna vote for a convicted robber over this dreamer with a beard?" Pllate fatally chooses the consultative option, at which point, having condemned an innocent man to death, the gover-nor's people try to recover the situation with a photo-op in which he washes his hands of

the matter. In short, Blair sees the Crucifixion as a failure of party critision as a faiture of party
management, Pilate as a man
buffered between contending
aides. But if Matthew's account of the events in the governor's office leading up to
what we would now call an
"unsound" crucifixion is, as
Biair claims, a "timeless political warehle" then its moral for cal parable", then its moral for legislators is quite clear: the leader is finally alone and the public is not to be trusted in

mportant judgments. compatible with the entourage and focus groups which are two of the dominant props of New Labour. Indeed, we cyni-cally assume that even the question of whether or not the leader should discuss religion so publicly was the subject of much debate among his advi-sors. But Blair's Easter exegesis has offered an intriguing insight into the struggles in his mind as he approaches his This is not though, how the

## Labour leader sees it. Be apparently imagines some gruff first century Alastair Campbell muttering in the paid up to play cent. But that's not what the reader's poll in the Galilee Sun is saying. Let him go and you can kiss a second term good-bye." Meanwhile, Mandelson the high priest cilkily whis.



Paul Foot

O ONE came out worse from the Scott report than Sir Colin Chan-dler, chairman of Vickers. Sir Colin was head of the Ministry of Defence Export Sales Organisation (DESO) from 1985-89, and he was severely criticised by Scott for his role in the notorious Hastie affair. Hastie was Chandler's successor as marketing director of Britain's biggest arms com-pany, British Aerospace. When he was "seconded" to DESO under Chandler. his job was to sell British Aerospace Hawk fighter jets to the Iraqi dictatorship. Scott described the conflict of interest here as "plain as a pikestaff", and de-nounced it roundly,

How did this powerful de-nunciation go down in the Vickers' boardroom? The board's remuneration commit-tee set to work to make absolutely sure that Sir Colin will be secure in his old age.

To their horror they found that Sir Colin's pension en-titlements had been "capped" by a provision in the 1989 Finance Act introduced by that well-known scourge of the wealthy, Nigel Lawson. In the six years after 1989, when Sir Colin joined the company, the Lawson "cap", a futile attempt to cut down on the abuse of tax privileges on pensions, had deprived Sir Colin of £718,000. At once, the remuneration committee paid £718,000 into a supplementary retirement

On further reflection, the littee considered a mere £718,000 nothing like enough. After all, he would have to pay tax on the £718,000. So the payment into Sir Colin's sche was "topped up" by the amount of tax he would have to pay: a further \$478,700. For good measure, this was topped up" once again with a further £31,260 to cover the tax he would have to pay on his earnings below the Lawson "cap". This brought the total 1995 "remuneration" (or known in the City of London) to £867,788, a rise of just over £100,000 on the previous year. I course anyone criticised in the Scott report must expect to be but who among the many criti-cised, even the Attorney General, can claim to have been more handsomely treated than

The Vickers bonanza is another sign of the huge cultural shift in British capitalism Until recently its heroes were the careful, fair-minded, pub-

the building societies. A few weeks before he was deposed for irregularities in his ex-penses, the chief executive of the Woolwich, David Robinson, announced that he had switched churches. Out went the fuddy-duddy Methodist values of mutuality. In came Good Old Avarice, the end of mutuality and the "commer-cialisation" of building societies into banks. There is only one reason for this stampede which is relentlessly sweeping building societies into the gutter: to enrich directors with ridiculous salaries and share options. Since the money for this enrichment, and for the new shareholders' dividends, must come from somewhere. the inevitable result is a worse deal for savers and investors The directors boast that their decision to "commercialise" must be put to a vote of all savers and investors. This vote, however, is unique. Its central feature is bribery. The real question is not: "To want real question is not: "Do you think it's right that mutuality should be replaced by avarice?" (likely answer: no). But: "Do you want to receive £1,000 for nothing?" (likely answer:

like the Northern founders of

yes).
Alan Howarth MP, who was elected as a Tory, is being "groomed" to inherit the safe wonder whether his "grooms" ever reflect on the purpose of the House of Commons. Is it a representative assembly or a stable where thoroughbred politicians can swap parties and seats according to their

Fortunately. Labour Party members resent being treated as voting fodder for the great and the good. They recall that Alan Howarth supported Thatcher and Major through the miners' strike, the poll tax and the destruction of the coal industry. And their message to Mr Howarth and his grooms is a simple one: get lost

ALACE was so hard on Wallis" was the Daily Mail headline, which accurately summed up what Prince Ed-ward is pleased to call his "research" on his namesake, Edward VIII, who "gave up everything for love". What ap-pears to be missing from this princely research is the not al-teresting their loss that We'll. together trivial fact that Wallis Windsor, was a fascist, I don't abuse. She was a real and dedicated fascist, who hobnobbed half her youth with glamorous young fascists from the entou-rage of Mussolini. In America and China she did everything promoted and mollycoddled, in her power to extend the influence of her beloved fascism. In Britain she did even better - she married the king. The couple continued to conspire with fascism until it was finally vanquished. The fact that the present Prince Ed-ward speaks so warmly of his greedy, racist and fascist great-aunt is a moving tribute lic-spirited burghers of the to the onward march of pro-



Education is losing votes for the Tories; **John Carvel** doubts that the political skills to get out of this mess, although evidently collien. Shophard will be able to turn it into an electoral winner Gillian Shephard will be able to turn it into an electoral winner

# Learning swerve

education correspondents of papers from across the political spectrum gave voice on Saturday to a short summary of events at the National Union of Teachers' confermce in Cardiff.

There are two Gillian She-phards..." they sang, after the Education Secretary left a televised news conference at which she claimed she had just given the profession a sharp reminder that the Government would entertain "no turning back" in its programme of schools reform. Perhaps her phrase was meant to echo Margaret Thatcher's famous party con-ference soundbite; the lady is

not for turning. It was cer-tainly designed to put over the message that Mrs She-phard is no part of the cosy educational establishment which used to embrace the teaching unions, local education authorities, academics and the relevant Whitehall officials and their ministers. She bolstered it by over-

egging a complaint about the damage done to the teaching profession by the "childish and old-fashioned antics" of a ragtaggle of Trotskylte news paper sellers outside the hall, who mysteriously posed such threat to her security that she had to be ushered in by a

The trouble was that this abrasive tone was a long way removed from the emolliant approach which the other Mrs Shephard had just adopted in the conference hall, where she deliberately most angered the teachers, versy. It did not escape the notably the introduction of attention of the rightwing nursery vouchers, primary ideologues that she was

In fairness to Mrs She-phard, it should be recognised that the speech was an ordeal. After the mobbing of David Blunkett at a fringe meeting during the NUT conference in Blackpool last year, she could not be sure that the platform would not be rushed by one or other of the leftwing teachers' factions which jostle for the

limelight on these occasions. For a woman of five foot two to address this audience was an act of courage, al-though as it turned out the delegates showed surprising self-restraint, using only a silent protest against selection to express their deep hos-tility to Government policies.

Mrs Shephard's political career could have done with something rather more dra-matic. John Major picked her for the job two years ago to restore calm to a department being wrecked by the erratic excesses of her predecessor, John Patten. Her charming commonsense approach restored peace to the classroom and allowed progress to be made on a raft of minor reforms to lift teaching

Then during the summer holidays last year, the Prime Minister rashly decided that education would be the field on which he would fight an ideological battle with a Labour Party weakened by the embarrassment of Tony Blair's choice of a partially-selective grant-maintained school for his son, Euan.

Having sensibly chosen Mrs Shephard to take education out of the headlines, he now wanted her to stoke the made no mention of the Gov-now wanted her to stoke the ernment policies which have flames of political contro-

O THE tune of school league tables and a dragged reluctantly to accept Guantanamera, the return to grammar schools. the proposals for nursery vouchers and the progressiv dismantling of comprehen-sive education which will be outlined in a white paper in souped up into an eye-catch-ing manifesto commitment. It is also unlikely to have escaped the attention of Cabinet colleagues earlier this year that the bookmakers' odds on her becoming the next Tory leader — at 10 to

> ter than those given to many who thought themselves her senior.
>
> Over the last few weeks the whispering campaign against her has become seriously threatening and spilled over into the rightwing news-papers. On Saturday a centre-page article in the Daily Telegraph suggested that her willingness to cuddle up to the teaching profession (from which she and her husband sprang) made her big speech that day to the NUT "a bit like Harold Wilson addressing the Durham Miners' Gala".

one - were considerably bet-

This was vicious stuff and politically if not personally
 Mrs Shephard would have profited from a lot more teacher hooliganism than in Shephard is that the trick is fact confronted her.

It would have been easy enough for her to have pro-voked it. She needed only to have departed from her text a little and adopted the tone she took later with the journalists to have snapped the selfrestraint of her audience. A mention of more grammar schools could have done the trick. Or praise for Chris Woodhead, the chief inspector of schools, who has be come a bogeyman for his trenchant criticism of 15,000

ther script and left the sharp words until the press confer-ence. The same happened 10 days ago when she made the announcement that there would be a white paper on school admissions policy in a lecture to the good and the great at the Institute of Education in London.

Inside the hall she said the Government would not force any school to become selective, leading many present to believe she might have won her battle with the Prime Minister to maintain the comprehensive principle. But afterwards at the press con-ference she appeared to have bowed to his ruling that a switch to more grammar schools was desirable and inevitable.

Every state secondary might get the right to select its intake, with the option of forming local 11-plus consor-tia to pick the most able pu-pils. This could lead to the creation of a grammar school in every town, she said.

complain of a politician saying different things to different audiences, but the problem for Mrs taxation. not working for her. Her strongest asset was the sup-port of the educational establishment which appreciated rescue from the wilder lunacies of the Patten era, but this is being eroded by the nagging suspicion that she can no longer defend common sense against demands from the Downing Street policy unit for ideological radicalism. Her enemies on the right are not convinced by the television soundbites that

she has come over to their "incompetent" teachers.

But Mrs Shephard stuck to Mrs Shephard may yet find tinues to be discarded.

of honour which may be too strong for her own good. We cannot expect her to discover a passion for corporal punishment or other red meat to

throw to the party woives. She may be the victim, but she is not the fool in this story. John Major appears to be making a huge mistake in believing that he can turn a distinctively rightist educa-tion policy into an election winner. All the polling evidence shows Labour continu-ing to build on a lead of more than 30 per cent in the popu-lar estimation of the party with the best policies in this

Last week a Harris poll commissioned by the Association of Teachers and Lecturers confirmed a heavy major ity against selective education, backed up by strong sympathy for Harriet Harman, the shadow health secretary, in her decision to choose a selective grammar school for her second son. The people are supporting her, but rejecting a return to a system which divides children by ability at 11. The Prime Minister ap-

pears not to have realised that education — like the health service — is an issue which wins votes for Labour. The best a Conservative leader can do is to seek to remove it from the headlines and concentrate on Tory issues such as defence and

Yet now Michael Heseltine the deputy Prime Minister, is joining in the rush to draw even more attention to the deficiencies of the education system after 17 years of Conservative government. He wants the worst indicators of comparison with the educational performance of OECD rivals included in his next competitiveness white paper, as a spur to greater effort Again Mrs Shephard is

doubt again she will be portrayed as ideologically un-Labour shadow, must be



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## First lady of the Blitz

years younger. A certain deri-sion regarding one of Holly-wood's top 1940s' stars is mainly due to the reduction of her career to the image of in-domitable, upper middle-class English housewife defying the Blitz in Mrs Miniter (1942). Garson, who became emblematic to Americans of the cour-age of the British under bombardment, tended to invite faintly damning epithets such as "lady-like". "gracious" — with its queenly echoes — and "damna". But time has "demure". But time has tended to obscure the numer-ous qualities of Metro's Glori-fied Mama, as she called herself. Though a patrician beauty, most often poised and

pendent and intelligent. By almost all accounts she was born in County Down, although there have been some suggestions that she was an Essex girl. Whichever way, she avoided the milk-andwater Englishness of, say, Anna Neagle, and there was a lovely lilt to her "bird-of-para-

dise tones and accent", in Parker Tyler's phrase.

After attending London Uni-versity. Garson intended to become a teacher but joined an advertising company in-stead, while dabbling in amateur dramatics. In 1932, she made her professional debut in Elmer Rice's Street Scene, with the Birmingham Rep. and stayed with the company for two years. In the West End, she was spotted in a melodrama called Old Music by MGM chief Louis B Mayer, who had come expecting a mu-

T HAS become unfashionable to express an admiration for Greer Garson, who has died aged 92 — although most refere books make her five re younger. A certain deringer one of Hollyd's top 1940s' stars is inly due to the reduction of career to the image of inaloof schoolmaster (Robert Donat) who brings out his natural humanity and concern

This led to her role as a delightful, though a little too mature, Elizabeth Bennet in Aldous Huxley's screen adaptation of Pride and Prejudice (1940) opposite Laurence Olivier's Mr Darcy. It was an

graceful, she was also high-spirited, witty, vibrant, inde-

Garson . . . called herself

important step in Garson's faw words" at the award cere-career, and she rapidly be-came MGM's classiest actress turedly, "If I have time, I have after the departure of Garbo and Norma Shearer.

The successful weepie. Blossoms in the Dust (1941), which revealed the star's red hair in Technicolor for the first time, was equally signifisical. He signed her to a \$500 a cant for Garson as it was the week contract, though she sat first of eight films she was to

make with Walter Pidgeon. As a loving couple, who establish an orphanage after their own child dies, they become one of Hollywood's ideal romantic couples, rather like a non-Jeanette MacDonald, While mated, Pidgeon represented tweedy, pipe-smoking, steady virtues. The apotheosis of virtues. The apotneosis or their relationship was reached in Mrs Mininer. Their affectionate interplaying is most noticeable in the scene in a shelter when they try to calm their children's fears during a bombing raid.

During the shooting, Garson incurred Louis B Mayer's dis-pleasure when she began a ove affair with her screen son Richard Ney, 10 years he junior. They announced their engagement, but Mayer begged them not to tell the press, and to delay their marriage until after the film's first major release. The couple complied, and they were married in 1943. Mrs Mininer won Greer Gar-

son her only best actress Oscar (out of seven nomina ions), for which she delivered the longest acceptance speech in the Academy's history. For almost an hour she thanked everyone under the sun for ber success. Garson's longwinded address caused the Academy to ask future winthree minutes. When, in 1951, Garson was asked to say "a a few things left over to say..."
In Random Harcest (1942),

Garson demonstrated that the attributes she brought to Mrs Miniver were no accident. As the sympathetic music hall dancer who restores the selfesteem of a shell-shocked am-



sang and danced in a skimpy kilt. Another uplifting assignment was Madame Curie (1943), shaped as a vehicle for Garson and Pidgeon, neither of whom bore much similarity to the Polish and French scientists they represented. Nev-ertheless, it was among the better Hollywood biopics, and the sequence in which Marie Curie learns of Pierre's death, her eyes tear-laden as she lov-ingly touches his possessions. had a potent impact on

The film annointed her

Lady Has An Interview" routine from Ziegfeld Follies (1946), in which a gloriously affected Judy discusses her role as Madame Crematon, who invented the safety pin. The number was created for Garson, but her husband refused it for her. According to James Agee: "If she were not suffocated and immobilised by Metro's image of her — and, I'm afraid, half persuaded of it herself - I could

Valley of Decision (1945), in

Soviet affairs: in ex-

ments. As we left, I noticed the report of our infraction being filed in the wastepaper

Gordon made sense of the

Soviet Union, because he

knew instinctively that what was important was the

people. He never completely forgave the Soviet authori-

ties for banning him from the

country for so many years while he worked for the Rus-

sian Service. But he regret-ted the passing of that infuri-

ating but fascinating country. His marriage to Carolyn Stafford was dis-solved in 1991. He leaves a son and three daughters. boss's son (Gregory Peck) even outdid Mrs Miniver at the box-office. However, it proved to be the last of her hits, and her charms became less acceptable in the more cynical post-war era. There were attempts to revive her popularity by co-starring her with returning war veteran Clark Gable in Adventure (1946) — "Gable's Back and Garson's Got him" — casting her as Irene Forsyte in That Porsyne Woman (1949), and even in a sequel called The

same remarkable chemistry.

She began to spend more time with her third husband. Texas oil millionaire, Elijah "Buddy" Fogelson at their New Mexico ranch where she bred horses, as well as working for various charities. Her few sorties into showbusiness included her stage role as Auntie Mame in 1958, a cameo as the Mother Prioress in The Singing Nun (1956) — surpris-ing she didn't play more nuns — and as Fred McMurray's supportive wife in The Happiest Millionaire (1967). How-

allowed her to do an imitation | duced various takeoffs includ- | Rafferty, the lively Irish ser- | Pidgeon still produced the nor Roosevelt in Sunrise of Harry Lauder, in which she ing Judy Garland's "A Great vant girl, who falls for her same remarkable chemistry. | Compobello (1960). Equipped with prosthetic teeth to better simulate Eleanor's looks, and emulating her unique, quaher own persona to give a beautifully-nuanced and heartfelt performance. It was fitting that the most cele-brated of Washington's first ladies should be played by the erstwhile First Lady of

**Gordon Clough** 

# Radio's friendly persuader

invariably got his man. I never heard him bector an the World At One, The World would find the question that pierced the armour plating, tesse out the inconsistencies. reveal the sham.

He made it sound so easy, but, once you worked beside him, you realised that his ability was based on effort -he briefed bimself more thoroughly than most, and be had that knack that is always there in the best journalists
— that of making connections with facts most of us had long forgotten. Thus armed, he would gently correct those of his interviewees who would deny the evidence of history. They rarely tried

It was his sense of history and his culture that made Gordon a great journalist. He was modest, but very aware that he had lived through— and played an active role in - a dangerous and exciting period in world affairs. He spoke fluent Russian, learnt by monitoring Soviet naval signals on Royal Navy

national service.

And it was in covering events in the Soviet Union that Gordon spent his finest hours. He understood the country and his easy-going, natural conversations with ordinary people made his coverage so enlightening. No one who heard his in-

doubt about the horrors of the events or the humanity of the events or the humanity of the reporter.

Born in Salford, Gordon other's pockets, and only one tation for being a little short was educated at Bolton hard word between us, so with colleagues who were School and Magdalen Coltrivial I can't even remember less than on the ball — but This Weekend and PM he legs, Oxford where he read its cause. Others have similated and cakes at four on a Sat-French and Russian. He lar memories: of Gordon. joined the BBC as a studio stranded overnight and freez manager after the navy in ing at minus 40 C in a Sibe 1953, moved to the World Service in 1960, Radio News feating jokes at 4am to keep the



terview with an 80-year-old woman in Leningrad, dis-

ORDON Clough who traught and starving as perehas died aged 61 was trolks bit hard and the routhat rarity among that rarity among current affairs jour doubt about the horrors of with Gordon across the dying the extra effort to turn in a nrday afternoon would restore his cheer, however downcast he might have be come with the World This Weekend's news agenda or the team that was producing

He won his first Sony Award for his presentation of that programme; fittingly, the second came for his work in the Soviet Union, for a programme on the death of the Aral Sea, which showed Gordon as a great reporter, and consummate writer. What emerged on paper rarely needed more than a cursory tweak, he was a wonderful role model.

It was his broadcasts that made BBC radio's Soviet coverage in the eighties as good as it was. And Gordon Clough was totally dedicated to radio. Some suggested that, because of his small and somewhat shambolic frame he would never have made it

If true, that was TV's loss. He loved radio and was the complete radio man. The power of words was his craft. and he created pictures that left lesser performers gasp-ing. He knew about sound too and used it to complementand build his images.

As the Latvian nationa Arthur Gordon Clough, Journal anthem rang out and the flag ist, born August 26, 1934; died April 7, 1996.

**Max Easterman** 

phrase from Gordon said it all: "There's a single tear, rolling down the cheek of the

woman next to me". Others would have embellished; He knew when to stop talking The talking has stopped forever now, and that's devastating for all of us who loved Gordon and love radio. He was a dream to work with. There were never embarrassing silences; his experience and knowledge were so broad and deep there was always something to talk about.

with Louis Armstrong. return to his passion for smallest and most boring village, Gordon would discover something new and interesting. On one occasion, following just such a lead, we strayed beyond where our visas were valid — and ended up under arrest. It could have been a disaster, but the interminable interrogation finally revealed that the militiaman was an avid listener to the BBC Russian Service of which Gordon was once programme organiser. The two were old buddles in mo-

Albert headquartered in San Antonio and Hall relocated there, continuing to play after the glory days with Al-bert were over.

### A branch of jazz's family tree

aged 88, was an out-standing jazz clarinetist and saxophonist. He played with Sidney Bechet and Eddie Condon and was the youngest of five Louisiana-born brothers, all of whom became Time after time, though, musicians and one of whom, the conversation would Ed, won international acclaim

hamlet 45 miles from New Orleans. Although his first instrument was the banjo, he picked up clarinet, inspired by his father and brothers. Based in New Orleans, Herb began to work with the city's established dance orchestras, specialising in alto saxophone. In 1929 he was spotted by trumpeter Don Albert, with whose touring big band he stayed for a decade, making some much admired recordings featuring his baritone

ERB Hall, who has died | clarinet and sticking to Albert | aged 88, was an out- System (as did most of the great New Orleans instrumentalists), he developed a warm-toned lyrical style, in contrast to the hard-driving approach favoured by brother Edmond. Following a three-month tour of France in 1956 with planist Sammy Price, with Whose

in 1945, Hall made for New Hall...yoga devotee with a York. Concentrating again on warm-toned lyrical style

Condon, becoming a fixture at the guitarist's club. He first visited Britain in

1981 (with the English trum-peter Clive Wilson) and returned again with a group recreating Jelly Roll Morton's music. earning appreciation band (plus Sinney Bechet) be and gentle easy-going personality. By this time, he had given up his small shop on Long Island, worried by the deteriorating neighbourhood, sold his saxophones and Antonio. A yoga devotee -- "It opens the mind and you can think freer," he said - the clean-living Hall cut more fine records in his later years, gaining greater critical acceptance apparently content that his talents were now receiving proper if overdue recognition. He was still playing guest spots with local bands in Texas, where be had settled. until the last few years.

Peter Vacher

Herbert "Herb" Hall, clarinetist and saxophonist, born March 28, 1907; died March 6, 1996

Birthdays

53; Hywel Bennett, actor, 52; James Boiling, cricketer, 28; Sir Andrew Bowden, Con-servative MP, 66; Mark Blundell, racing driver, 30; Gen Sir Anthony Farrar-Hock-ley, military historian, 72; Steve Howe, rock guitarist, 43: Douglas Hyde, writer, 85; J P Kavanagh, racehorse

Julian Lennon, rock must-clan, 33; Air Commandant Dame Alice Lowrey, former matron-in-chief, PMRAFNS, 91; Carmen McRae, jazz singer, 74; Mary Moore, dip-lomat, playwright, 66; Wil-liam Garth Morrison, chief scout, 53; Virginia O'Brien, actress and singer, 75; Joe

Patricia Arquette, actress, trainer, 53; Sir Nell Lawson, Royle, football manager 47; 28; Tony Banks, Labour MP, former High Court judge, 88; Ian Smith. Rhodesia's rebel UDI prime minister. 77; Franklyn Stephenson, crick-eter, 37; Alec Stewart, cricketer. 33; Monty Sunshine, clarinettist, bandleader. 68; Dorothy Tutin, actress, 65; Martin Weston, cricketer, 37; Vivienne Westwood, fashion designer, 55; Ian White, Labour MEP, 51.

#### Jackdaw



#### **Bully for us**

NO WONDER the current plight of the British livestock industry has turned into yet identity. The monarchy may have become a soap opera, and the national cricket team a bad joke, but the extinction of the Sunday lunch of Roast Beef and Yorkshire Pudding has tabloid soothsayers prophesying the death knell of British culture — or, at least, of the Tory Government, which has been accused of procrastination in the face of the impending "beef crisis". The spectre of "mad cow disease" has led the European Union to pro-

near-hysteria in England. To those who assume that national passions are artifical politicians, all the rage and anguish stirred up in Britain over the European ban will seem overwrought. But the modern British iden tity was shaped, in the 18th century, around such emotional national icons as the oak and the bull, and defined invariably, against the French. To have the fourlegged symbol of essential Britishness repudiated by the European Union pre-cisely at the moment when ful way of the fit between British insularity and Conti-

hibit the import of British beef, and has produced a

A Web death

cially manufactured by cynidiscussions are under way or Britain's federal future is to be reminded in the most pain nental federalism. Simon Schama explains Mad Cows and Englishmen for the readers of the New Yorker.

WE'RE THROWING in the towel and, in a flurry of cli-chés, giving up the ghost. The

a library of short opinion ssays to which we'll add from time to time, but the frenetic publishing deadlines are gone. We've learned a few les sons from this project, which we hope to see mentioned someday in the chapter

(Internet) site will remain as

headed, "Early Web Publish-ing: The Populist Years". WebRunner's premise was that the World Wide Web was fundamentally a powerful wedge allowing democracy to gain a seat at a table domi-nated by big-media publishers and broadcasters. That may still happen, but not with the capital-poor model we were forced to choose. (Note to writers to whom we owe money: The checks will be in the mail soon. Truly. Sorry for the delay, and thanks for being patient.) We learned that even on the Web, it takes

money to succeed. It takes money to buy the advertising that lets people know you're there. So much of the Web these days is pro-moted in traditional media. Check out the ads in Wired. . It also takes money to produce a content field rich What we published was very good, but there was never enough material to consis-tently keep people streaming into the tent, and our hit rate showed it. Moreover, the World Wide Web is an unat-tractive medium.

The medium of the Web is a computer screen, and that's an uncomfortable way to read. We tried to overcome the inconvenience by insist-ing on short essays, but reading WebRunner was never a comfortable experience, ever for us. When you can buy a \$25 hand-held Web reader with a cellular phone for the dialup connection, a 25 cent per hour connect charge and a print-quality flat screen, then you'll be equipped to en-joy reading on the Web. Not

efore. The nature of the Web (and the broader Internet) makes it difficult to stand out. We talk about surfing the net and travelling through cyber-space, but those metaphors are far from the reality. There's no sense of place in cyberspace. There's no there

there, When anywhere is reachable from everywhere, it's all nowhere. So the only way one place can stand out way one place can saint out from another is through image-making, the big bucks game of advertising to create perceived values in customers' minds. That's a game we

can't afford to play. The final editorial from the publishers of the electronic zine, Webrunner, some of which can still be read on the Internet at http://www.access .digex.net/web/

#### in the gallery

IT IS THE dream of my life. We can have exhibitions of furniture, a section of designers that I like, our own collection, our menswear and ac-cessories. It has become a bit like a gallery: it's never boring. I don't think people these days need to buy another tie or another jacket — shopping has become like going to a club. You get so many people who stroll in the shop, meet their friends and arrange to have digners. have dinner. Clothes designer and retall

tomer environment of his Fulham Road shop, in an interulew with the top people's mag-azine, Harpers & Queen.

Doctor, doctor 1. DO NOT Expect Your Doctor To Share Your Discomfort. Involvement with the

patient's suffering might cause him to lose valuable scientific objectivity. 2. BE Cheerful At All Times.



Your doctor leads a busy and trying life and requires all the gentleness and reassurance he can get.

3. TRY TO Suffer From The

Disease For Which You Are Being Treated. Remember that your doctor has a profe sional reputation to uphold. 4. DO NOT Complain If The Treatment Fails To Bring Relief. You must believe that your doctor has achieved a deep insight into the true nature of your illness, which transcends any mere perma-nent disability you may have experienced.
5. NEVER Ask Your Doctor

To Explain What He Is Doing Or Why He Is Doing It. It is presumptuous to assume that such profound matters could be explained in terms that you would understand. 6. SUBMIT To Novel Experimental Treatment Readily.
Though the surgery may not benefit you directly, the resulting research paper will surely be of widespread

should consider it a privilege to contribute, however mod-

7. PAY Your Medical Bills Promptly And Willingly, You

estly, to the well-being of phy-sicians and other humanitarians. 8. DO NOT Suffer From Ail-

nents That You Cannot Afford. It is sheer arrogance to contract illnesses that are beyond your means.

9. NEVER Reveal Any Of The Shortcomings That Have Come To Light In The Course Of Treatment By Your Doc-tor. The patient-doctor relationship is a privileged one, and you have a sacred duty to protect him from

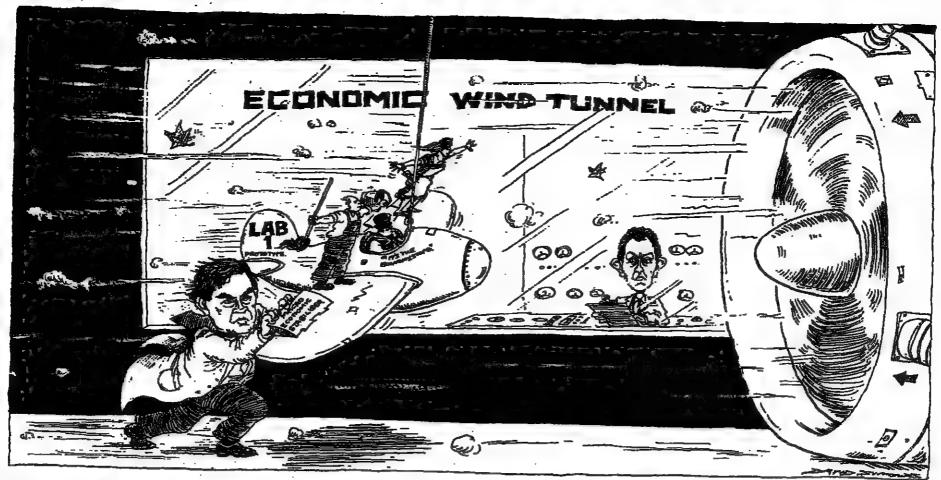
exposure. 10. NEVER Die While In Your Doctor's Presence Or Under His Direct Care. This will only cause him needle inconvenience and embarrassment. More electronic mail wisdom. from the Code of Ethical Behav-

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ECIR 3ER.

'Opposition is not saying that past 17 years show capitalism is fundamentally flawed. Rather, it is staking a claim to manage capitalism better than

the Tories'



'Those out of work for long period pay high price. Suicide rates, marital breakdown and effects of poverty on children all soar once the 12-month milestone is passed'

Week-long test of Labour policies begins with examination of macro and micro views

# Internal truce is fragile in absence of war



Larry Elliott

mily tree

"We have been through this so many times. Finally the economy is always going to be a Tory usue, its theirs. They own it. However unfair it is, i teish it weren't so. But it's

T IS four years since the playwright David Hare penned those words in Absence of War, after following Neil Kinnock around the 1992 election trail. For those who covered the 1992 election, David Hare's words have an awful ring of

At a time of severe recession. Labour could hardly want to get off the economy and on to its "strong" areas –

health and education. The first two weeks of the campaign were wasted on tax, Labour's weakest issue; the third week wrangling about Jennifer's ear, and the fourth lost to a muddled debate about constitutional reform.

Within a year the parties will be back on the hustings and this time, we are assured, it will all be different. Like Bill Clinton in 1992, Labour strategists now say "It's the economy, stupid" when asked what will determine victory

In one important sense. Lahour is better placed than it was four years ago. Black Wednesday saw to that. Even to shake off the bunker mentality so cruelly portrayed in Absence of War, its factics are those of an English club away to strong opponents in the European Cup — get everyloidy behind the ball, make as few mistakes as possible and try to sneak a goal on

the break. The message seems to have got through to the electorate. On the BBC's Newsnight last he says. "But it just gets Thucek, one of those focus harder and harder. They bit On the BBC's Newsnight last

clans found that voters put Labour to the right of the Liberal Democrats and saw Tony Blair as indistinguishable from John Major.

This is hardly surprising.

The vast bulk of the Thatcher ite revolution — market forces and privatisation - is seen as irreversible. Parts of it - trade union reform, for example — appear to be thought of as beneficial.

Not only has Labour moved unashamedly to the right on economic policy (and everything else), it has also wanted everybody to know it is moving unashamedly to the right. The answer to the murmur-

ings of discontent, and there are plenty of them in the party, is always the same. Britain is a conservative (small c) country where people are wary of change. If we have to pitch our tents

groups so beloved of politi- | somewhere to the right of where the SDP was at the time of the Limehouse Declaration in order to defeat the Conservatives, then so be it.

This is a powerful argument, and there are many in the party who accept its depressing logic even while se-cretly hankering after a more radical approach.

But the softy-softly line has its risks. One is that Labour's

sales pitch fails to excite the voters, particularly if the economy does well over the oming months. The Opposition is not say-

ing the past 17 years show that capitalism is fundamentally flawed, nor that the third of the workforce that has had some experience of unemployment in the 1990s while directors' pay has rocketed demonstrates that class still matters. Rather, it is staking a claim to manage capitalism better than the Tories. Or, as the modern jargon has it, make markets more dynamic.

that this is a perfectly accept able line of attack. After all, able boom, the loss of the reserves in macro-economic up in more than half a century and the squandering of the North Sea oil windfall suggests that Conservative stewardship has not exactly

However, if Labour is to be a success — even in its own terms — it is still crucial that it get the macro-economy

ence, that means making a distinction between the largely successful American approach to macro-economic management and the disastrong French approach

For the French, stability appears to mean over-valued exchange rates propped up by excessively high interest nent deflation. For the Americans, stability is quite consis-tent with low interest rates, scope for different spending indifference to exchange rates priorities and changing the and a bias towards expansion.

Gordon Brown knows all this. He and his team are close to the Clinton economic policy-makers, and aware that people like Larry Summers and Robert Reich argue forcechanges of the sort Labour is proposing only make sense against an expansionary

economic background. A policy conducive to growth really means a loose monetary policy coupled with a restrictive fiscal policy—
again, the strategy followed
by the Clinton camp. Keeping
fiscal policy tight has two advantages — it prevents expansion being overly dominated by consumption and helps keep long-term interest rates down. (This is not to say, incidentally, that fiscal policy should be set in aspic: there is

taxation regime.)
If this is what Mr Brown means by stability, then he will deserve support. Some of is in favour of the sort of controlled expansion that would allow the economy to grow at 3-3.5 per cent for a number of vears, a rate which, according o some officials, could even tually bring the jobless total below 1,500,000.

Labour, we are promised will have a Medium Term Growth Strategy, will reorga-nise the Treasury to make it a ministry of economics as well as a finance ministry, and in-

troduce a more broadly based the Bank of England. It has to be said, however,

that Labour's economic policy sometimes comes across as rather more orthodox and it is often hard to know with which of its two voices the Opposition is speaking. Acting tough in order to convince people that Labour will never again preside over 25 per cent inflation is one ining, trying to outdo the Conservatives in anti-inflaattempted in his Mais lecture. another.

The hard truth is that only if the mix of monetary and fis-cal policy is conducive to growth can the second half of Labour's macro-economic plan slot into place. This in-volves tackling job insecurity in investment designed to in-

crease the economy's long-term growth rate. Like his riends in Washington, Mr Brown is confident that there is a bigger role for the Goverrunent to stimulate an increase in the quantity and the quality of investment. So abour is promising reforms to corporate governance, tax breaks, public-private finance partnerships, a university for industry and so on.

Some economists believe

Labour's approach could work. The economic historian Nick Crafts, for example, told by the Centre for Economic Policy Research that endogehelp raise growth rates, pro-vided governments differentimulation of capital — the unfocused approach followed by centrally planned economies - and investment based on innovation and the diffusion of new technologies.

Bill Martin, chief econo-mist with City firm UBS, is far less sanguine. In a paper on Labour to be released later this month. Mr Martin will proposed reforms are so mini-malist that they are likely to have no impact on the longterm trend rate of growth. Nor does his research show any link between macro-eco nomic stability and higher growth, except at rocketing

evels of inflation. Labour is sensitive to this charge of minimalism, partly because it is what some of the most vehement left-wing critics say, partly because it has

some truth in it.

Despite all the talk of radicalism, the policy stance is cautious: hence the dilution of the proposals on training to omit any reference to a man-datory levy and the lack of desire to talk about when and at what level a minimum wage

would be introduced. unity is unlikely to crack.
Those who think the emphasis on macro-economic caution coupled with incremental changes on the supply side amount to Conservatism by any other name are keeping

proceeding before there has been the widest possible con-sultation: It will proceed im-

But EMU will lead to the cre-

ation of millions of new jobs:

And to a strengthening of

society in general: As wit-nessed in France.

A single currency would

leave Parliament with wide

discretion in economic policy:

Discretion over car-park

charges, dinner-money con-

tributions, a penny rate.
Important financial matters

will remain with our own

MPs: Such as Parliamentary

pay rises, allowances, bribes, consultancy pay-offs

Abandonment of a single

currency will lead to war (German chancellur): Winter for

There can be no slowing

down for the British (more

Poland and France.

mediately afterwards.

In the United States

## Wage subsidies can help to stop the rot in giroland

Richard Thomas

**FRII.** Davies is the sort of person for whom New Labour has reserved its most interventionist economic policy. After more than two years on the dole, he has just landed a job as a labourer at SDB Kitchens in Waver-

ton, Cheshire — but not without the sort of state help Labour wants to expand radically. The Government put him forward for the post, boned

then agreed to pay a chunk of his salary. Mr Davies is fortunate to be living in one of three areas where the Government is piloting its Work-Start programme, in which people who have been unemployed for more than

two years receive a wage subsidy. Without this, Mr Davies is convinced he would still be in giroland. "I'd sent off thousands of applications,"

mum subsidy of £58 a month. For someone who has been claiming benefit

for 10 years, the subsidy

rises to over £200. Labour, which places age subsidies at the heart of its "welfare-to-work" strategy, has bolder plans. Any firm taking on some one who has been on the dole for more than two years will get a £75 subsidy every week for six months. Under Labour, Mr Davies,

who earns £3 an hour, would come half-price. The rationale for this scale of micro-economic intervention is two-fold. First, those who remain out of work for a long period pay a high price in terms of social exclusion. Suicide rates, marital breakdown and the effects of poverty on children all soar once the 12-month milestone is passed. Three months out of work is inconvenient: three years is a disaster.

ing inflation.
Because skills become eroded and work habits are

lost as time passes, employ-ers look askance at people with long periods of unemployment on their CVs. They don't compete in the labour market.

Doreen King, WorkStart co-ordinator for the North-west pilot area, agrees that a vicious circle sets in. "They can't afford a phone, them —on the pittance they have to live on. We have to stop the rot setting in."
By stopping the rot. Labour argues, wage subsidies would allow the economy to grow faster without triggering price pressures. And because the subsidies take the place of benefits almost the believe held in the formation of the subsidies and the subsidies are formation to the subsidies and the subsidies are formation to the subsidies and the subsidies and the subsidies are formation to the subsidies and the subsidies are subsidies and the subsidies are subsidies and the subsidies are subsidies are subsidies and the subsidies are subsidies and the subsidies are subsidies are subsidies are subsidies are subsidies are subsidies and the subsidies are subsidies are subsidies are subsidies are subsidies are subsidies are subsidies and the subsidies are subsidies ready being paid, it pays for itself, too. Everyone wins. Stephen de Blasto, Mr Da-

vies's employer, supports moves to make the scheme

more generous. "If there was more money, it would

end up not even bothering the short-term jobless, they says. "At the moment, Snower, point out that even to reply."

His boss gets the mininational duty of restrain—work. The Government people represent deadshould use more of that money to subsidise them into work."

But things are never as rosy as they seem. Wage subsidies have a number of problems. Lots of the people hired on the cheap would have found work anyway what economists call the "deadweight" cost. The Co-operation and Develop-ment, which looks kindly on this sort of active labour market policy, reckons that up to half of the cost could

DETER Brinksman, a barman at a local re-creation centre under the WorkStart programme, probably falls into this category. Tony Brown, chairman of the centre's commit-tee, says. "He is the sort of person we would have taken on anyway. If a va-cancy came along, we'd def-initely have hired him." Proponents of subsidies, including Professor Dennis

weight cost, the other half would not have otherwise found a job. The glass is half-full, not balf-empty.

A second danger of subsi-dies is that unscrupulous employers might use the cheap labour to replace existing staff. The Labour Party reckons this problem of substitution could be tackled by rigorous moni-toring. But, once the scheme is established nationwide and firms sussed it out, it seems inevitable that some existing employes would be losers.
Of course, the firms cur-

rently benefiting from the pilot scheme are horrified at this suggestion. Mr de Blasio says: "I wouldn't lower myself to those sorts of tactics." Mr Brown at the recrea

tion centre admits it could happen. Just not there.
"You could just throw them back out. We just don't work that way. We go from the heart, not the head." term unemployed displace the shorter-term jobless from the front of the queue, with the overall demand for labour unchanged. The within the jobless popula-tion — not more jobs.

Labour admits that subsidies are no substitute for a strong macro-economic environment and the creation of new jobs. But, given that those who have been out of work for a long time are likely to stay that way, and that they pay a high social cost with no economic ben-efit, nudging them to the front of the queue may be worth it in itself.

Mr Brown certainly sees the approach as a secondbest, made necessary only to tackle unemployment at

"I'm completely against schemes - YTS was disgusting," he says. "If it is the only way people like Peter can get a job, we have to go along with it. But my their powder dry. But phoney heart tells me we should wars have a nasty habit of

#### The other argument is a bit harder-hearted: unlike be more attractive," he The third danger with FA and opera house share worthy goal | Converging battle lines

#### Briefing

Sarah Ryle

of anything. Easter eggs at Easter. Turkey at Christmas. Beef, for some, just about always. It is a proffy safe bet that, whatever discounts shops offer on chocoline eggs over the next few days, there will still be a surplus at the end of this week. There are times when the usual rules of supply and de-

mand break down because factors outside producers' con-(rol become more influential Boof is a good example, Although some consumers will be tempted to buy beef as prices plummet in the face of the BSE scare, many will thouse not to run the unquantificible risk posed by a sheplend's pie. Demand is likely to

become increasingly inelastic. But at least by responding to the scare with lower prices, producers and retailers are making an effort to maintain the traditional British roast. Recent events in the field of another British obsession, football, showed a total failure to appreciate basic sup-ply-and-demand principles in

the highest echelons of the sport.

The Football Association watching the match on TV is came under fire for somehow failing to sell out one of the highlights of the soccer calen-

ately followed and on-form clubs. The game between Liv-erpool and Aston Villa should have been played in front of a capacity crowd. It was held at Old Trafford, the home ground of Manchester United and a modern, high-class stadium. It was within easy travelling distance of both visit-

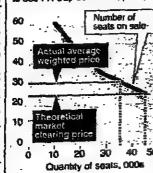
ing teams' fans.

Theoretical demand for tickets to see FA Cup semi-final, price, £ seats on sal Actual average weighted price

dar, the semi-final between two of Britain's most passion-

Granted, it was on Sky tele-

Ticket demand



not as good as being there. So why was the ground only 80 per cent full? Liverpool returned 6,000 of their 23,500

tickets unsold and Aston Villa returned 4,400 of their 23,004. The FA imposed a pric-ing structure at Old Trafford which took the average weighted price to £81.68. Almost all of the Old Trafford returns were tickets priced at the top level of £38.

of the other semi-final played on the same day and televised by the BBC. Chelses sold all of their 18,500 allocation while Manchester United sold all but 700 of their 19,000. The 700 outstanding were all priced at £38. The key difference seemed to be that the smarter Old

Trafford ground had 86 per cent of its seats priced at £38 or £30, while Villa Park mustered 67 per cent of the betterappointed pews. The market almost cleared at Villa Park but by the accident of its seating status rather than by the design of the FA. The FA got it wrong in both

cases. It assumed that de-

mend was less elastic than it proved to be and so the mar-ket did not clear.

Perhaps the FA could have to £34. and 800 of the seats learned a lesson from the available priced at £13.50 or Royal Opera House, an less Result also full house. Royal Opera House, an organisation which has become used to allegations of uniustifiable prices. On closer inspection, the al-

legations seem to be a little harsh. The Opera House has a pricing system with 131 levels. The range depends on the performance. Thus, for Wagner's The Ring which corporate affairs director Keith Cooper compared with an FA Cup semi-final as opposed to a Domingo concert which would be the final itself, the average price was \$76 with the range starting at under \$50 (800 of the 2,000 tickets) and rising to \$140 (for 124 of the total). Result full house. But for a recent perfor mance of three modern ballets, the average ticket price was £17.80 with a range of £2

The comparison, like most Opera House's supply curve goes vertical at 2,000 ticket whereas Old Trafford's has to reach almost 25 times that be fore no more seats are available. There are other factors to consider, such as popular appeal and income. Is opera's

popularity as widesprea football's, and do most football fans enjoy the same earn ings as opera devotees?
The logical step, economi cally speaking, would be for football and opera organisers to test the elasticity of demand until they discoverd the

price equilibrium. Fortunately, football and opera have elected to consider

social and moral factors. Illogical, but commendable.

#### indicators

TOMORROW - UTO industrial pronomia Report. JP: Private sector machinery orders

WEDNESDAY - UK: CBI Survey of

JPz Current account (SoP) (Feb). US: Retail sales (Mar).

FRIDAY -- US, CPI (Mar).

#### Worm's eye

Dan Atkinson

BAFFLED and bewildered by the prospect of hav-ing to vote on the single currency? Bone up now on the big issues with our EMU In-stant Euridition Guide! never have to take: Because it

Nobody said meeting the con-pergence criteria would be easy: But you won't really miss all those hospitals, honest The lessons of the ERM experience have been learned: We won't let the Danes vote this

will be taken for us.

It is all a question of balancing the pros and cons of the argument: And then joining. franc.

currency will bring undoubted millionaires and big business. be a downside: For everybody

Essentially, it is a technical matter. So belt up and do what you're told. There will have to be additional compensation to the poorer regions: Huge hand-outs for Spain and Portugal. As well as for those on the

European periphery: And for Ireland and Greece.

But Europe is about solidarity or it is nothing: So let's screw the British fishing fleet. It is, above all, a vision of fraternity: And the British

beef industry. What Europe needs is a currency that everybody can trust to hold its value: The Swiss

#### Tourist rates — bank sells

ustrelia 1.8850 Raly 2,335 Austria 15.27 Germany 2.1975 Marin 0.5375 Belgrum 44.87 Hong Kong 11.60 New Zealand 2.17 Cyprus 0.8975 Norway 9.53 nd 7.00

Singapore 2.08 South Atrica 6.03 Spain 183.00 Sweden 9.99 Switzerland 1 7550 Portugal 226.50 Turkey 99.900 US 1.4a Saudi Arutus 5.00

German chancellor): My patience is at an end. EMU will mark a step-

change in European democ-racy. By handing the economy over to central bankers. There may have to be penalties for countries remaining out ide the single currency: Penalties enforced by the single European army.

Competitive devaluation would be a hostile act: It's war.

pointment of David Lloyd as

England coach. The captain Mike Ather

The captain Mike Atherton's relationship with Lloyd is a good deal closer than the one he has enjoyed with Illingworth; the chairman will be keen to receive the reassurance that he is to make the final decisions.

Although the Acfield committee is likely to make recommendations about the

recommendations about the procedure for appointing

future selectors, there is little that Illingworth can do about

the process for this year. He believes that the chair-

man should be allowed to choose his own accomplices, and until this year's extraor-

dinary upsurge in interest, fu-elled inevitably by Botham,

appointments generally war-

Illingworth, however, still

maintains that selectors should watch a minimum of

90 days' cricket a sesson and that there should be no con-flict of interest with media

work, as would almost cer-

tainly be the case with Botham.

Last week Smith circulated a letter to the counties point-

ing out the inadvisability of

appointing someone who works in the media to a selec-

torial postition Vesterday.

however, he denied that the letter was anything other than a straightforward out-line of a long-standing policy.

"There was nothing suns-ter involved," he said, "The

policy that no one with a sig-nificant or full-time interest

in the media should be a selector has been in place for

45 years now, and Raymond

had to give up his media work

when he was appointed, as did Ted Dexter before him. It

seems common sense that there should not be this con-

But the letter goes on to say

that the counties are still at liberty to nominate whomso-

ever they wish. "Raymond wants selectors who will

watch a lot of cricket but he knows perfectly well that this

is a democracy and the

counties will elect the candi-dates they regard as most suitable. It is our job to make

Lanka lost to Pakistan by

43 runs in the Singer Cup in

Singapore. Sanath Jayasur-

iya struck the fastest half-century in international

flict of interest."

acy and his confidence has sure that, whoever gets voted not been enhanced by the apin, it can and will work."

ORI LANKA's Arjuna vinda de Silva was his natu-Ranatunga, who led his country to the World Cup Ranatunga made his an-

Martin makes it four

Ranatunga quits as captain

rant scant comment.

Illingworth

full powers

to retain

AYMOND Illing-

worth is to be given assurances from the Test and County

Cricket Board that his au-thority as chairman of selec-

tors will be left untrammelled

no matter what the outcome of next week's election of the final two selectors for this

The position of Illingworth

has already been undermined

by an abortive attempt by some counties, notably War-wickshire, to have him replaced as chairman, and clearly he remarks that

clearly he regards the nomi-nation of eight candidates —

in particular lan Botham and

David Gravenev - for the

two posts not so much as a

lemocratic exercise out as

Reports have suggested that, in the absence of confir-

mation from Lord's that he

will retain his overall right to

rule on disputes, Illingworth would consider resigning if

anyone other than his pre

erred candidates — believed

to be Brian Bolus and John

Edrich now that a disillu-

sioned Fred Titmus has with-

But yesterday Alan Smith

the chief executive of the TCCB, said: The terms and

conditions of the appointment

of selectors haven't changed and Raymond's role is exactly

as it was in 1994, when his terms of reference were very

year he was manager as well.

He will retain a casting vote

It is the worst-case scenario that bothers Illingworth most: the election of both Botham, who despite his

more recent pronouncements that he could "see no problem

working with Illy" has not waivered in his criticism of

the chairman, and Graveney,

the man pushed forward by

Warwickshire as a would be chairman. Although there is

no reason to believe that team

different. Illingworth is in-

tensely suspicious of conspir-

that he will step down as

"I think I've done my bit

as captain of Sri Lanka's cricket team since 1989,"

captain.

Sauash

selections would be radically

and a power of veto."

drawn — is appointed.

further evidence of a plot to

Mike Selvey

eason's panel.

At Libel

#### Rowing

### Carver enjoys absent victory

Christopher Dodd sees Boat Race consolation for the Cambridge president

F John Snagge was watching from the studio in the sky he would have seen the kind of Boat Race commentators pray for. Oxford kept open the possi-bility of winning the 142nd encounter from Putney to Mortlake until St Paul's School on the long Surrey bend but finally had to bow to a Cambridge crew who rowed a wee bit further with each stroke.

It was the Light Blues' brought the score to 73-68, with one dead-heat. Their time of 16min 58sec equalled the second fastest

ever. Cambridge's lofty men in the middle — Seb Dawson-Bowling and the American Ethan Ayer, described by the coach Robin Williams as "a statement of faith" because at 6ft 9in he had problems fitting into the stroke - contained themselves while maintaining a smooth link between the units in the bow and stern.



this race by two families two coaching teams. Clegg, Oxford's presi-Rob dent, hoped to repeat his father Duncan's victory 30 years ago and Cambridge's president John Carver wanted to follow in the Much store was set on footsteps of his father Rus-

sell, who won in 1956. The Surrey station. Afterwards faces in the Oxford he praised the coaches: Williams for maintaining a su-Carver, who was de-

liams for maintaining a superb system of physical and technical training started selected at the start of the by the late Mark Lees eight vears ago, and the New Zea season after two operations failed to mend his wrist, lander Harry Mahon who the finishing

touches. Williams has now completed two years of his three-year contract and Oxford's Penny Chuter and Daniel Topolski are at the same stage of their contract to turn round Oxford's fortunes. They certainly came

"Bath highlighted all our

Both crews compete against Harvard and Yale on the Olympic course near Atlanta on Saturday. Earlier Goldie, the Cambridge reserves, showed the

health of the system by beating Isis by 11 lengths in a record time of 17min 2sec.

#### Rugby Union

Courage League One: Bath 41, Harlequins 15

## Bath turn on hot tap as cash pool is low

Robert Armstrong

S Bath stride towards a sixth title it is far from clear where the money is coming from to pay their players in the professional era. Bath's director of rugby John Hall believes he will keep his senior squad together, with the possible exception of Ben-Clarke, but said he was getting "more pessimistic" about the prospects of agreement between the top clubs and Twickenham over the future of the domestic game.

essential to Bath's plans to pay players between £15,000 and £50,000. However, the chances of Bath or indeed any club raising the £1 million plus needed for next season around £125,000 a year.

look increasingly remote as the stalemate with the Rugby Football Union continues. "It's very frustrating for the

clubs, who have taken part in a lot of meetings," said Hall. "The RFU have said they want to negotiate but it seems a certain Mr (Cliff) Brittle is obstructive to our cause. Time is getting short. Thes matters need to be resolved within the next two weeks." Hall also wants Clarke "to

make a decision\_quickly; about any move to Richmond who this week are expected to announce the signing of the Welsh international haif-Adrian Andy Moore. Clarke has been offered a long-term contract by Richmond which, together with his England earnings, would guarantee an income of

Though Bath have received | a flow of inquiries from po-tential investors since deciding to reconstitute the club as a limited company controlled by trustees. Hall does not at present have the money to insist on an early decision from any player. No doubt Clarke will keep his options open for ast a month or so, aware that Bath can offer him European Cup rugby next season.

Bath are richly endowed with No. 8s good enough to ease the pain of Clarke's possible exit. Rival clubs are about the need for entertaineager to sign the Scotland in-ternational Eric Peters, who afraid to use even in the con-Saturday with panache and Harlequins could take pride commitment. Steve Ojomob, in the way they scored two too, has the versatility to fill tries, by their half-backs Kit-

quins are eager to sign the Garryowen and Ireland hooker Keith Wood, given the form of Simon Mitchell who break Both exercised an iron forward grip which yielded them 32 points without reply, since taking over from Brian Moore, has displayed all the including three tries and two audacious drop goals by the half-backs Catt and Nicol. attributes of a modern mobile ball-handling forward. Mitchell and his props Leonard and Mullins played a dynamic part in Quins remarkable first-half performance which weaknesses," said Best, "But we set our stall out to play produced a 15-9 interval lead. expansive rugby, scored

some good tries and I was very pleased with our never-Quins' director of rugby Dick Best makes no bones say-die attitude." Bath's goalkicker Jon Callard, who finished with 20 insurance while they were struggling to move into a higher gear. The full-back's any back-row position as he chin and Challinor, in the proved with a storming dispenalties whittled away Quins' early 12–3 lead so that Such was the quality of the hosts levelled the scores

handling and movement by 15-15 after 54 minutes and his forwards and backs that it covering also helped draw the was impossible to take one's opposition's sting. was impossible to take one's eyes off the action. After the

Sleightholme's 55th-minute try reflected Bath's collective firepower as the ball went through five pairs of hands before he touched down. Then Quins kept Bath at bay until De Glanville and Guscott scored. As Best said: "Bath were brutally effective."

SCOMERS Build Tries Sleightrome, De Glanville, Guscott. Conversions Callard Punation Callard 8. Brop gooling Call Nicol, Harlequinas Triess Kitchen, Chattinor. Conversions Chattinor. Paneltys Challenge, Challenge, Challenge, Challenge, Challenge, Andebayo, P. De Harmile (capp. J Guech J Eleichmoine | Call. A Number P.

natices, in Hade, in Hearman, a receivage, of Colorada, Paters.
Hardequalisms J Staples; D Cit.eary.
Hensain, W Greenwood, S Bromley.
Challenor (C Whight, Objeto), R Kitching.
Leonard (capt), S Mitchell, A Multins,
Snow, P Thresher G Asiliann (C Shease

lenium, M Watson. - J Pourson (Durham)

Welsh Lge: Pontypridd 54, Swansea 22

## Jenkins sparks Pontypridd

ONTYPRIDD and Neath could find themselves playing each other twice in 10 days next month to settle the destiny of Wales's two major competitions. They have avoided each other in this Saturday's Swalec Cup semi-

the race for the league title.
Pontypridd trail Neath by
six points but have a game in

they can still pick up a bonus point or three by running in

affected by injuries, yet on a fine day it was surprising to see them employ the forward tactics favoured by Pontypool in the 1970s. They spoiled for large periods, so the game was not a free-flowing spectacle, yet after 26 minutes the

result was never in doubt. Pontypridd at that point had moved 21-3 ahead with their second try, a counter-attacking gem finished off by the wing Geraint Lewis, who was to score twice more. The quest of both sides for

bonus points kept a tension of sorts in the match, Pontypridd not claiming their third and final one through Lewis until injury-time but, with tries becoming easier to score, their worth is being devalued As Wales found out this season, defence matters

he said, adding that Ara- cricket from 17 balls.

#### through six more railies and Richard Japo in Cardiff four changes of serve before she slightly mistimed a fore-

ICHELLE MARTIN advanced her case to be considered one of the all-time greats of the women's game by taking her fourth successive title at the British Open here yesterday. Yet this victory over her Australian compatriot Sarah Fitz-Gerald was by far the hardest

The score was 1-9, 9-5, 9-1, 9-7 but Martin struggled after leading 8-3 in the fourth, missing the first of five match points with a forehand volley she hit down. "You try to forget things like that but they tend to drift into your mind afterwards," she admitted. Spurred by that reprieve, Fitz-Gerald, in her first final, redoubled her efforts, hitting

the ball 50 per cent harder, but at 7-8 she missed a crucial chance to go to 8-8.
After pulling Martin from side to side in the longest and fiercest rally of the match. she finished with a backhand boast that faded from the side wall to the top of the tin. Devastated, Fitz-Gerald tossed down her racket, kicked it with uncharacteristic petulance and broke it.

penalty stroke.
"The pressure had been really intense," said Martin. "Sarah played very well for her first final and I hope she doesn't play like that again." Fitz-Gerald had made a marvellous start. She scored six times without reply, drove firmly, hustled all the time and sometimes made the champion look scrappy. Had she maintained this impecca-ble attack she might have

hand into the middle, was un-

able to avoid obstructing Mar-

tin's backswing and inad-

vertently gave the champion the title once more with a

steamrollered Martin. But a backhand boast down gave relief to the champion, who gradually found her rhythm. Fitz-Gerald recovered from 0-4 to 3-4 in the second game but made three consecutive errors, a vital sequence which gave Martin a lien on that game. When she had taken it. Martin's talents flowered, especially at front court. Fitz-Gerald served only three times in the third game and lost seven points in a row from 3-1 up in the fourth as the match utterly changed

Leicester 15, Wasps 12

#### Tigers' double-vision Intact despite rising rate of attrition

ion Maiin

CONCUSSED Niali Ma-Alone, staggering from the field — "doing his best Bambl impression" in the words of Leicester's coach Ian Smith summed up this match. Here were two heavyweights slugging it out toe to toe.

Leicester eventually got the verdict on points, John Liley converting four penalties from four attempts, but it was a grim, attritional affair. Wasps, a place in Europe on their minds, played the part of dark destroyers. Lawrence Dallaglio led by example, tackling with fearsome com-mitment but rarely did Wasps allow themselves the luxury of giving their backs a run. "We can't take a great deal of pleasure from that," said Smith. "They won some good line-out ball and stifled our

moves but we should have scored three tries." Leicester at least tried to expand their game but, when Malone was replaced just be-fore the break. Liley was forced to play at fly-half with Underwood moving to full-back. Lacking fluency in midfield, they spluttered to a 12th league win. But they were mightily relieved when Guy

Gregory's last-minute dropgoal attempt drifted wide. This win began a schedule

of seven matches in a month for the Tigers, culminating in the cup final against Bath. The game against a World XV at Twickenham next Sunday week is a distraction they could do without.
Their jaded-looking side

also seemed distracted by the Tony Russ affair. The club are not commenting on last month's sacking of their di-rector of rugby while a pay-off is negotiated between solici-tors, but Russ's first statement yesterday that the decision was "totally flawed legally" is ominous. Many of the players are unhappy with the manner of his departure. "I'm shocked it has come when it has," said Neil Back.

Despite Leicester's prob-lems and Bath's exhilarating recent form, a cup and league double is still in the offing. double is still in the offing:

Scores: Leleaster: Drop goal:
Malone, Panalities: Litoy 4. Waspar Drop
goals: Gregory 2. Penalities: Cregory 2.
Leleaster: J.Liev, S. Hocknov. 1. Overend
R. Robinson R. Underwood (capt). N.
Malone di Homilion. Samin; A Kardoom, G.
Rowntree R. Cockerill. D. Garforth. M.
Johnson, M. Poole, J. Wells, N. Rack. W.
Johnson, M. Poole, J. Wells, N. Rack.
Maspar d. Ulton L. Scrase, N. Greenstock,
A. James, S. Raiser; G. Gregory, A.
Gomarasti; D. Molloy, K. Dunn, I. Dunston, M.
Greenwood R. Kinsby, M. White L.
Dallagilo (capt) P. Scrivener
Referees B. Campsall (Yorkshire)

Gloucester 18 Bristol 14

play on the blind side.

Horror show makes for a TV turn-off

Chris Harritt

AROUND 30,000 viewers tune into Sky TV's weekly live rughy broadcast. It Rupert Murdoch was among them for the transmission from Kingsholm, the Courage

for an alternative backer. staggeringly inept. Basic skills were conspicuously ab-sent. "I didn't think it was go-ing to be quite that bad," admitted Gloucester's coach Richard Hill. If anything, Bristol de-

corner by Gavin Sharp after some quick thinking from the combative Bracken, and their pack performed better than expected after the late withdrawals of the England tight forwards, Regan and Archer. As so often, however, lack of discipline cost Bristol dear. But their outgoing coach Brian Hanlon protested: "There was a 15-6 penalty count against us and the play-

eague may soon be looking Gloucester and Bristol were

served to sneak the points badly needed by both sides. They scored the only try, smartly finished off in the left



Hill . . . disbelieving

ers were incredulous at

The lead changed seven times, the rival goalkickers Fenwick and Thomas taking centre-stage for the first 50 minutes. It was only when Fenwick turned an ankle in a neavy tackle from Bristol's aggressive right-wing Breeze that the match swung decisively towards Gloucester.

Mapletoft was the replace ment and promptly smacked over two penalties from near halfway to tie things up. In such a depressing encounter those kicks shone like

Thomas 3.
Gleaceaster: G Fenwick (M Mapletoft.
485nin), M Pelers. D Cummine. M Roberts.
P Hollord: M Kimber. S Banton, T Windo, P
Greening. A Descon, R Fidler (C Gibson,
76). D Sims (capt), P Glanville, A Stanley. C Paymond.

Briant P Mai (1990) S Brack I Marks

K Magge, S Sharp, A Thomas, K Bracker.

A Sharp, A Lattrope, D Hinkins, M Corry,

M Fontaine, E Rollet, J Pearson, C Barrow.

S Plancy (Yorishire).

#### towards Neath two-header

Dorld Phirmer

finals and have started to break away from the pack in

hand. Their duel at The Gnoll has been rearranged for May 14, which is 10 days after the cup final. Even if sides get hammered

consolation tries, so Ponty-pridd have had to rethink their game. They still roll mauls, but not to the point where Neil Jenkins is in pen-alty-goal range. They still like to wear opponents down, but not to the point that they open to go. As they showed in scor-ing seven tries against Swansea, their rugby is no longer risk-free but Jenkins is blossoming as an attacking force. Swansea, who conceded 50 points for the second time

## as much as attack. os HIMELI AS ATTACK. SCORERS: Posstypridet Tries: G Lewis 3. Collins, J Lewis. Jenkins. Cormack. Conversions: Junkins 5. Posstines. Jenkins 5. Posstines: Boodyer. Staw. Charvis. Conversions: Williams 2. Posstypridet. G Jones: D Manley, J Lewis. S Lewis (C Cormack, Synthy, G Lewis, N Jenkins, Paul John, N Bezani (appl. Phil John, N Eynon, G Prosser, M Rowley, M Spiller, D Michinsh (M Lloyd, 78), R Collins. \*\*Symmetric S Lignet: A Marrier B Scothure

Tickets from £7.50. So much for hitting ... the Scottish where it hurts most. Firstigame April 14th - 3, London Monarchs v Scottish Claymores

#### AMERICAN FOOTBALL. ENGLISH TURF. CALL 0500 35 35 35 FOR TICKETS.

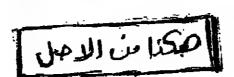
The new racket carried her course.

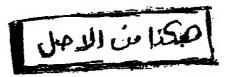
What could the Scottish possibly hate more than losing money? Losing their first game of the season to the English. Venue: White Hart Lane, Tottenham . Home games: April 14, May 6, May 19, May 27, June 16 • Pre-game Power Party at 12.00pm • Kick-off at 3.00pm - Courtesy shuttle bus with return service from Seven Sisters tube · Half-price admission for children 12 and under · Season tickets: 5 for the price of 4 - Ticket orders are subject to agency booking fees.



MONARCHS C







#### Racing

## At Liberty can score for in-form Hannon stable

Chris Hawkins

YNICS will no doubt say that Easter Bank Holiday racing was invented by bookmakers who know a good thing when they see one and have never been averse to ex-ploiting the poor old punter.

Nearer the truth is that racecourses see the holiday as an opportunity to pack'em in and 16 meetings today testify

to that.
With so much racing, backers find themselves overwhelmed by choice but their capacity to absorb punishment and come back for more has long been the foundation of the betting industry.

After a nightmare Chelten-ham, a dreadful Doncaster and an anguished Aintree, the punters had to concede another round at Kempton on Saturday, although Frankie Dettori's Haydock four-timer did something to restore the

easier at Kempton this after-noon when the Westminster Taxi Insurance Rosebery Handicap is the centrepiece of

Following a stable in form the Stark Maiden Stakes over gives you half a chance and Richard Hannon's At Liberty to be well above average. (3.40) looks decent value today. Dane O'Neill, an outstanding apprentice, who won the Lincoln for Hannon on the 33-1 shot Stone Ridge, takes the ride on At Liberty, a colt whose best effort last sea-

son was a close fourth in the King George V Handicap at Royal Ascot. He seemed well suited by the mile and a half then and he should certainly be finish-ing over this afternoon's

on the Royal Ascot form.
Burning, who was sixth.
comes into the reckoning on
71b better terms now but his drop in the weights reflects his subsequent deterioration. Special Dawn won the Rose-bery first time out last year and must be on the short list, but John Dunlop's horses have been running as if they

need a week or two more. This is not so with Peter Chapple-Hyam, who has hit form straightaway, and he could land a double today with Regal Archive (2.10) and Orinoco River (2.40).

The former makes his debut in the first division of Cappellar and Orinoco River (2.40).

The former makes his debut in the first division of Cappellar and Orinoco River (2.40).

to be well above average.
Only six go to post for the
Quail Conditions Stakes, providing The Puzzler (3.10)

with a good chance to recap-ture his smart Irish form of a couple of seasons ago.
Once with Michael
Kauntze, he is now trained by
Barry Hills and showed he

still had ability when finishing runner-up to Fire Dome at Doncaster recently with hard To Figure (now 4th worse off) six lengths behind.

Captain Horatius attempts to win the Magnolia Stakes for the second year running although the presence of his stable-companion, Medaille Militaire, complicates

In these circumstances it may be best to ignore them both and plump for the form horse Wijara (4.25), second to First Island at Doncaster in a decent time on the opening day of the season.

Athenry has Comic's Future to beat but his two promising runs in good class juvenile events at Newmarket last autumn suggest he is use-ful and he will certainly relish this mile and a half. In the Jameson Irish Grand

National at Fairyhouse, Flashing Steel will be at-tempting a notable double. He ran on gallantly under 12 stone to peg back the ill-fated Rust Never Sleeps last year and has been laid out for the race again. Jodami, Cool Dawn and the

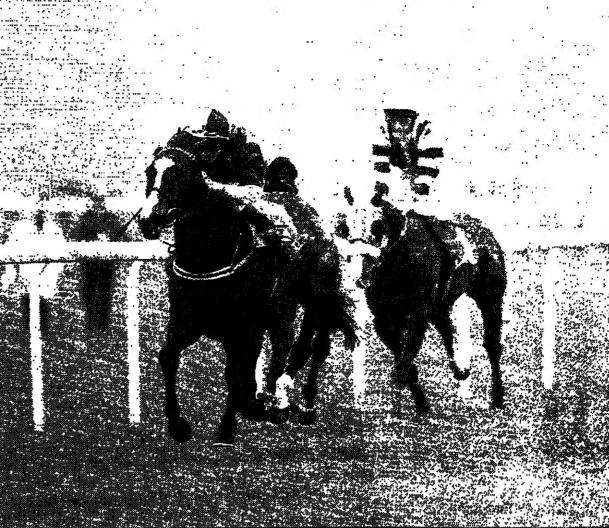
Queen Mother's Northern Conqueror are the British challengers.

Norman Conqueror seems better than ever at 11 years of age but the same cannot be said of Jodami, plagued with a succession of ailments and injuries.

The ground is in favour of Jodami, who travels well on

the bit these days but does not find much off it,

My preference is for the im proving Go Go Gallant (3.55), trained by Chelten-ham Gold Cup hero Fergie Sutherland. Charlie Swan, sound jumper at the bottom of



One for the bookies . . . Wannaplantairee lands a 25-1 sho

#### Kempton runners and riders

4.45 Barato

GEM (17) C Britain 9-0 \_\_\_\_\_ GRING ADMIRAL (172) C Well 9-0 TOP FORM TIPS: Private Song 10, Higher 7, Higher Dan Settings 9-1 Private Sang, 6-1 Magnificent Style, 7-1 Tasseli, Migues, B-1 Major Stately Dancer

2.10 STARK HAIDEN STAKES (DW I) 77 CLASS 

m 3-1 Recai Arctive, 5-1 Crazy Chel, 5-1 Allantic Storm, 5-1 Mence Hall Belai, 10-1 Forest Ro

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han	ne	14
.40	апт	MONSTRUM SUPPLIES HIGH STAKES (OH 2) TYO 1m 2f \$2,142
14		BRENTABILITY GLOWS 3-0
	+	CLANKEDWIFEL (213) M Street 9-0
ā .	23-	CLOURS HELL (194) & Heaton 9-0
# #		CODE RED.1 Has 9-0
5	00-	DASHING INVADER (172) Phints P-0
		LEAD HIM ON P Horrs 9-0 G Had 5
17	0-	MACHORRES (242) P Cole 8-0
-	86-	ORMOCO RIVER (179) P Change-Hyant 9-0
		POLOMAISE PRINCE II Alabura 9-0
		MOTER CAPTAIN J Gosdan 9-0
1	-	SAMRAM (177) J Opping 9-0 Sample of the sample of Carson 1
	75-	STEAMROLLER SYMMEY (1825) C Cyzer 9-0
		MENSINGE G Wrant A-R
3	3-	GENEROSA (221) H Carty 1-9

Betting: 2-1 Fire: Caphur, 6-1 Samman, 7-1 Clorkshamil, 8-1 Bert Goneroit. 3.10 DUAL CONDITIONS STAKES OF CASTS ☐ GOAL COMMITTIONS STRAIGHT ON CONTINUES OF CAPTURE TO THE STRAIGHT OF CONTINUES OF CAPTURE TO THE STRAIGHT OF PROPERTY (2544) IN CLARMON 3-5-7. Bettings 2-1 The Pozzier, 3-1 Wanten, 9-2 Hard To Figure, 5-1 High Priority, 5-1 King Of Parts, 5-1 Easy

Channel 4 4.0 WESTMINSTER TAKI INSURANCE ROSENERY MARCS
3.1003- BENAMFORM (228) Mrs J Cect 4-6-0
5.0000- BENAMFORM (279) (D) 1493 J-03
5.0000- BERMING (179) (D) 1493 J-03
21460- AT LIBERTY (128) (D) R HERMON 4-9-11
5.0000- BORROSE (184) (D) P Colo 4-9-11
5.0000- BORROSE (186) (D) P A AMBOND AND (186) (CD) J Dombo 6-9-9
5.0000- BORROSE (25) (D) J BORROSE 4-9
5.0000- BORROSE (25) (D) J BORROSE 4-9
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5.0000- BORROSE (25) (D) D BORROSE 6-9
5.0000- B 3.40 WESTIMMSTER TAXI INSURANCE ROSENERY HANDICAP IN 21 C12,882

PORM TIPGE Captain Heraties 6, Inquisitor 7, Wijara 6 logs ?- Captain Horatius, 5-1 Florid, 6-1 inquisitor, ?-1 Wejara

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5.7	STARK WARRING STAKES (Div 2) 71 CL,596	
1	DOCS-6 RAFFLES ROOSTER (95) A Negaciation 4-9-12	R Continues 16
2	340/50- Millere LE BOW (198) Pat Mitchell 4-9-7	
	6 ALPONE PARTHER (17) W Jarvis 3-8-12	
4	D- AMERICA ALFAYAAFI (198) R Alahurai 3-8-12	S Sanders 13
5	6- ARTHEOGRAGES (157) M Heaton-Dis 3-8-12	
	CHALLENGER 7 Neughton 3-5-12	M HMs 2
7	E- CIVE LEBERTY (236) G Laws 3-8-12	
ě	2- FREEQUENT (1.55) L Cumari 3-8-12	
è	THE P Howing 3-5-12	
18	MOYAL RESULT M Storie 3-8-17	
11	MANI ROCKETT C Horgen 3-8-12	Paul Eddery 14
12	40- SUPERIOR FORCE (175) Mass B Sandars 3-8-12	
13	PROMISSORY C Britisin 3-8-7	B Doyle 11
14	8- REVEUSE DE JOUR (193) A Charles 3-8-7	
15	6- THER (156) J Fasshaves 3-8-7	
10	VOODOO BOCKSET J Gosdan 3-5-7	

Warwick 2.36 Rechardes AL AUCTION MAIDEN FILLERY STAKES 2YO W CA,O10 CONTEMBANA, C DWYNT 8-11

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REAVEMELY MISS B PS/Rog 8-15

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SEA BEST P Chepple-Hyam 8-11 T Speeka S & Scally (7) 4 Decise O'Shou J. C-Batcher (1

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	WILL TO WEN P MUTES 6-11	K Paatsa 6
10	WINDRORM K McArktir B-11	
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•	040-0 \$157ER KIT (17) B Palling 9-7	T Spraice G
á	003- TESTARA (146) B HVs 3-5	J D Smith (5) 4
3	87060- CRY BARY (175) N Tiskler 8-9	J Carrell (1
4	000- DESTEN N.I. (27) 8 PMIN 3-5 000- TRY RABY (175) N Tokier 8-9 000- SHEP'S BARGER (181) J Daniop 9-9 000- SHEP'S BARGER (181) J Daniop 9-9 000- MERICELY AFFAIR (177) M Bes 8-7	G Carter 7
5	333-333 UOHE (37) C Britisin 6-8	ill Heavy (5) 6
6	DOO- PRESCREY AFFAIR (177) M BOS 8-7	
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8	00005- IEFFICACIOUS (130) C Benslaud 8-4	
	431000 - Defail BLAND, (1 18) D Martin 5-4	A Daly (5) 8
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11	03-65 DAUPHIN (90) W Munch 6-2 000-00 My MOTHER'S LOCAL (77) X Carbringhum-Brown 7-14	R Price 2
12		
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Bettle	gs 11-4 Ship's Dancer, 4-1 Tinters, 6-1 Lions, 7-1 Princely Affair, 8-1 iv	ory's Grab Hirs, 15-1 Sastes Kill, 12 manus
Blicac	X6V6-	1210000
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	[31224 CONTRAFINE (160) (D) W Janis 4-9-6 513/130- DOMAPPIL (172) Mrs J Cool 4-9-3	J Stack (2) 7
4	2009-50 DARKOF KORO (4) R Harms 4-9-3 1280-66 LOCOBOTORIDO (12) (D) (DF) M Bell 5-9-1 80-6 DERIORINATION (10) I Baking 4-8-5	A Daily (5) 1
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	aji-G DENOMIKATION (10) i Baiding 4-8-6	
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10	QUIN-5 SECRETARY OF STATE (98) DARROWS 19-6-3	D Allboard
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12	COS-OCH HIRT LYNER WYLER (A) AL RESCORDES 2-1-10	
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:	0-05 DREAL OF MY LIFE (11) P Morphy 8-6	J Carral 2
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ettlagt 9-4 Bella's Boy, 3-1 Dream Of My Life, 7-2 Four Westings. 9-2 Poly My See, 5-1 Shamant httlington, Scane Stealer. 4.35 WEST MIDLANDS COMDITIONS STAKES 7: 24,534

1 12200 - DECORATED HERO (174) (D) J Gorden 4-8-8

2 21500 - GROCKARRICKA (174) (D) B Palking 5-9-2

1 10 - SI CHI SARA, (174) (D) J Dondro 4-8-12

4 5000 - LAGO DI VARAND (180) A Berry 4-8-12

8 42-900 PRINCARRICKY (19 H Collingrape 4-8-12

1 227(0) - PERNOS RABAR (185) (D) J Banks 5-1-12

7 0420-1 WESTON RESIDENC (19) H Collingrape 4-8-2

8 (0500) HON WAGES (274) M Boll 4-8-7

TOP PORRE TIPE, Hab Ringle S, Desertabel Hero 7

TOP PORRE TIPE, Hab Ringle S, Desertabel Hero 7 5.05 EASTER HANDICAP SF C2,288
1 6009-9 ALLWYGHT THER (28) (20) R Procest 5-9-13
2 2539-6 JUST BOB (10) (0) 8 Kedlewill 7-9-6
3 04200- PETRACO (161) (0) (0) N Smith 8-9-7

00000- PATRACC (161) (C) (C) N SINDS 8-9-1
00000- DYABL OF SELVER (28) (CD) K SINDS 8-9-7
000000- JUCCA (161) (D) S SORRING 7-8-6
5200-2 MALIBU MAN (14) (D) S Meltor 4-9-6
11-440 FRENDLY BRANK (28) (D) Miss G Keltrany 8-9-6
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11-440 FRENDLY BRANK (28) (D) Sinds G Keltrany 8-9-6
11-440 FRENDLY BRANK (28) (D) S Boaring 5-9-6
12-25-5 SINDS WITH THAI BAND (718) (D) S Buckinston 5-9-1
52000- LLOC (14) (CD) C Devyer 4-9-4
0200-00 SECRIST WESS (14) (D) A Jones 4-9-11
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0201-00 SECRIST WESS (17) (D) MAY A KING 7-9-1 Anistry (7) 14 M Henry (3) 34 N Admes 94 TOP FORM TIPS: Sing With The Boad, 8, Pricedly Brave 7, Line 6 Bettings 5-1 Lioc, 6-1 Sing With The Boad, 2-1 Francily Brave, 18-1 Condwell Hall, Our Sanden, United May. 20 respect

 Paul Holley is facing the prospect of four weeks on the sidelines after a fall at Newton Abbot on Saturday. An X-ray at Torbay General Hospital confirmed the jockey will be out of action until early next month due to injuries sustained when Givus A Buck came to grief at the second fence in the Touch of Spring Handicap Chase. "I have cracked a rib and chipped a bone in a vertebra and it is very sore," said Holley. who was not detained in hospital overnight.

• David Bridgwater reached 100 winners in a season for the first time at Newton Abbot on Saturday when Balasani, trained by Martin Pipe, landed the St Austell Claiming Hurdle. He had been stuck on 99 for 10 days.

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2.201	Carr's Resources	2.50 Alleghery Hill	
9.5DS	Solo Symphony	4.20 Monison	
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1	1 LAWFUL FIND (6) (D)	R Hollanshand 9-2	F Lynch (5) 8
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ï	SA CRILLED WHEE OR A	Bycroft 8-6	P Robinson 2
7	4 DANCING STAR (6) P	Evens 8-6	
· 🛓	D DOZEN ROSES (14) 7	Japan 8-6	
	EMMAS BRIDGE C De	79 8-4	K Retter 7
TOP IN	SOIL TIPS: Lewis Find 8, Dead	ng Star 7, Telepris Surprise 8	
Betiles	E 8-4 Lewis Fled, 5-2 ( Cas ) R	emember, 5-1 Emmas Braszs, 6-1 D	ancing Star, 7-1 Timen's
	e. 12-1 Fally Foot Fred.		9 managers
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8	PLAY THE TUNE X B:	rise <del>9-</del> 0	- F Lynch (6) 4
•	32-5 PRIDE OF BRECTON (	(4) (NET) G Laws 9-0	
5	60- QUINTA BOY (271) J	Berry 9-0	
5	D BAG AND A BIT (6) B	Mostar 5-9	Tobaliz 4
7	PEET ON PEEK WORK	DUTE B-0	P MOUSES (2) 1
•	CONTRACTOR CONTRACTOR (20)	5) K Candy 8-9	L Headen (5) 7
10	7-3 CALO EXEMPLOSE (C	P Ctupple-Hyam 8-8	E Harris (5) B
10	SA SERRIT DE COCOT IN	5 A Newcombe B-8	5 Prospe (2) 5
12	40 Briefl Donieses	3 Fierro 8-8	P Hobbason 14
12	WATCH THE PIDE I R	us 5-9	J Onion 10
		and Bashring 7, Salo Symphony &	
		nbrace, 5-1 Frontman, 7-1 Pride Of Bri	rion 10-1 steers The Fire
	igita Boy	Company Harring or one	13 rampers
3.2	O FAMELY DAY OUT HANDIC!	P 61 C3.69g	
1	201411 - POINT F SW (DEDON)	24 25 1 ACES, P Solveto A. 10-8	
ė	2124D- MOUSEHOLE (1751 (	7 R Guest 4-9-11	S Drumme (3) 4
3	154500- COOL (184) (B) P Made	in 5-9-10	
4	00050-1 MARQASH (12) (D) P	7) R Guest 4-9-11 in 5-9-10 Evens 4-9-10	
8	120456 SQUARE DEAL (24) 5	Bowing 5-8-9	C Teagus (5) 1
-	a spens mercent same one March	America I	Same / Street

7	1000-85 ALMAYS GRACE (24) (D) Mess G Kallerary 4-9-8	
	DOGS-22 INVESTOR'T CROWNELLE (0) (D) (DF) LOSS 5 Willow 5-0-5	M Yebbett 16
	104-500 THICK AS THIEVES (63) (CD) Ron Thempson 4-8-4	
10	2-0-02 CHETAN CUTT (40) (II) N Literation 5-9-4	7 Melanghille
		17*
11	200000 - GAGGELESSINCH, GARL (161) (D) M; Chancon 5-9-3	P Blanchy (5) 16
12	00-5412 MAYBANK (24) (D) (RF) II McMahan 4-9-2	Heaton (5) 11
12	603 SLACK AND AMBER (201) P Webber 4-8-12	F Lwech (5) 10
14	0000-0 PENNY'S WISHERG (12) (D) N Syaret 4-8-5	F McCabe (3) 5
15	506223 DISSENTOR (24) (D) (BF) J Grover 4-8-5	P Roblecou By
16	1740-05 ARC LAMP (6) (D) J Glover 10-8-3 02160-0 PRINCE PROPERTY (21) (D) M W Easterby 4-7-10	C Potter 4
17	12160-0 PRIME PROPERTY (21) (D) M W Easterby 4-7-10	
13	006-000 DIAMOND BANGLE (52) C Elsey 4-7-10	
7000	OME TIPE: Double Spinedour S, Saryn 7, Naykank 5	
	e 9-2 Double Spiendour, 6-1 Berge, 7-1 Giggles wich Girl, 8-1 Maybank	10.4 Revenue Contro Grit
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© Blinkered for the first time — CARLISLE: 2.20 Ski Lady; 2.50 Doxford Hut: 3.20 Cheap Knight, David's Way; 4.20 Sliver Sleeve. PARENHAM: 2.30 Leal, Sceptical; 4.15 Carrigeen Lad: 5.25 Fen Terrier, HEREFORD: 5.23 Out Of The Blue, Snow Princess. HUNTINGDON: 4.05 Tilasi; 5.05 Swynford Pride. MARKET RASEN: 2.45 Abboylands. NEWCASTLE: 2.25 Sinking Sun: 3.25 Glenvally; 4.55 Bogart. NEWTON ABBOT: 2.50 See Patrol, Megamunch; 3.25 Prudent Peggy; 4.55 Oldhill Wood 5.10 Handy Lass. PLUMPTON: 3.20 Trojan Call; 5.00 Namasta. TOWCESTER: 2.15 Distant Home; Young Lucky. UTTOXETER: 3.25 Klyters Chance; 4.00 Onke of Lancaster; 5.10 Imola. WINCAMTON: 2.00 Gysart. WETHERBY: 3.15 Emilymoov, Soupceme, Willerfoss, Lakeside Lass: 4.45 Pret

#### UNITED KEEP TITLE FIRMLY IN SIGHT ● NEWCASTLE EYE RENEWED CHANCE ● LIVERPOOL SEE RED

**Premiership:** Manchester City 2, Manchester United 3

# Cantona's pain is United's gain



Touch too much . . . Eric Cantona flicks the ball past the lunging Nigel Clough at Maine Road

Newcastle may find mid-

table, lacklustre Blackburn

an easier proposition than QPR, whose sterling efforts

nevertheless left them second from bottom. "They must feel

as disappointed as we did at

tremendous. I liked the you

player-manager Ray Wilkins, who picked himself and direc-

ted operations which saw a

Despite the galaxy of expen-sive players, it was Wilkins who continually drew the eye

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AC Milan, Barcelona, Paris St

why don't you try the

versions (as well as the

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now available in five .

Leagues).

Newcastle United 2, Queens Park Rangers 1

"Man for man my team is Anfield on Wednesday." said as good." he said after this Keegan. "I thought they were

points of the leaders but still midfield player," he added. with a precious game in hand, referring to QPR's 28-year-old

decide the championship. If twitchy Newcastle outplayed that's the case, we are due for much of the match.

come down to something un-believable at the end of the to anticipate the direction of

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Cynthia Bateman

Ewood Park tonight with Kevin Keegan con-

Manchester United taking the

win kept them within three

with a precious game in hand.

"And with a little bit of luck

.. who knows, and it might

be a little bit of luck that will

or not I don't know but I be-

lieve the championship will

Crowd dictate the way to Keegan's late balancing act

cards. This time a yellow

QPR simply got on with

matches, and Peacock, were

the only changes to Newcas-tle's magnificent Anfield 11,

and Beardsley, still filling the

sort of game which brought

calls for his substitution

from even his most loval

#### Commentary

David Lacey

HOULD Manchester United regain the Pre-miership title this sea-son it is to be based son it is to be hoped though not with much anticipa gratulations someone will remember to fax a mes thanks to the FA disciplinary

Alex Ferguson's team would not be where they are this Easter Monday morning three points ahead of Newcastle with the prospect of doubling that lead by beating Coventry at Old Trafford this afternoon, with-out Eric Cantona. And Cantona would not be the player he has become over the last six months had the FA not sus-pended him for the previous eight months after his kung-fu attack on an abusive Crystal Palace supporter.
The argument may seem per-

verse and it is meant to be for that is the nature of the Frenchman's changed situation. To praise Cantona so fulsomely moreover, having previously doubted whether he could ever play for United again, is surely the height of hypocrisy. Once more, there is logic in apparent contradiction.

For in a sense the dark avenger of January 25, 1995. who earned a Croydon magistrate her 15 minutes of fame be-fore bringing a new meaning to trawlers, has never reappeared for United since that eventful

night at Selhurst Park. The detached, shaven-headed Trafford's third championship in four seasons bears little resemblance to the one-man affray waiting to occur. Al-chemy no longer walks band-

The footballer whose vision and acute sense of timing er, gathering a pass from underlay Saturday's 3-2 victory Clough before beating Bruce's

ways said the fans run this

club," he joked afterwards. "If they chant for Keith Gillespie.

But it was Lee, not Beards-ley, whom Keegan brought off

Beardsley off. Never." And as

Newcastle's shape changed,

football history. Beardsley.

moving inside, was transformed and transforming.

QPR failed to clear from a

throw in, with the otherwise

away the equaliser from close

you have to put him on."

over Manchester City at Maine | challenge and Schmeichel's Read could not have happened authout those eight months of | In that instant City looked enforced idleness.

Remembering the expressions of barely repressed fury on the faces of the United management after the FA had ex-tended the club's own ban on Cantona beyond the end of last season it is unlikely that this will be recognised now. But Cantona knows the truth. It is to be hoped that he con-

tinues to maintain this unlikely balance between probation and inspiration, for rarely has the English game had the chance to witness so many examples of the passer's art. And if the perfect pass is the ball that can be played first-time, then two such instances proved fundamental to United's third victory of the eason over City.

The first came within a minute of City drawing level at 1-1. Cantona's penalty, his sixth goal in eight matches, had given United a sixth-minute lead after Irwin had been brought down by Summerbee. Kavelashvili, City's latest Georgian import, equalised after 39 minutes when Quinn headed down Frontzeck's centre.

In United's next attack Buft advanced from midfield and released the ball towards Cantona, who let it run to Cole but then received a short square pass from the striker. A fraction of a second's delay in completing the one-two was enough to send Cole through but keep him onside. And the perfection of the final pass from Cantona
was equalled by the assurance
of Cole's finish.
Poor City. Muddled and myopic in midfield they might have

been with Alan Ball's decision to man-mark Cantons with Brightwell . . . well, not very bright. But they were more comfortable once the conventions of 4-4-2 had been restored for the second half and, within four minutes of replacing the tiring Kavelashvili, Rösler had scored a superb second equalis-

Five minutes later Beards

ley had won the match, beat-

ing two defenders and

squirming through a gap to crack a superb shot into the

far corner. He left the pitch to

a standing ovation. "Few people in the world can score

dinutes and. If we win all o

games by more than United

win theirs, we can still edge

capable of overcoming United for the first time in seven sea-sons, but within six minutes they were heading for another defeat. This time Cantona released the ball into the path of Giges, running free to his left. What followed was thought, for a moment or two.

to be a trick of the light.

The Welshman had had a quiet game but now he took a couple of strides towards the penalty area before producing a left-footed shot which found the top near corner of the City net so cleanly that it was in and out again before anyone quite realised what had happened. Even the United bench thought the hall had gone into the side netting.

United's next two fixtures are also against struggling teams, Coventry and Southampton, and the narrowness of Satur-day's victory should have warned them against attempt-ing to win matches against the lower orders on auto-pilot. City. big of heart, so nearly made United pay for arrogant self-

"What is heart," asked Ball, "when you haven't beaten them? Let's hope we're around to play them next season." Ball is still marching through Georgia, but for Manchester City the season may yet be a case of the unpronounceable pursuing the

· Steve Bruce aggravated his hamstring injury in the derby and may miss today's home game with Coventry. David May is his likely deputy while Lee Sharpe is the experted replacement in midfield for the suspended Roy Keane.

SCORERS: Manchester Kavalashvili (39min) Rosler Manchester United: Cantona (8

Care top, diggs, 111

\*\*Renchester Citys Immel, Curte Symons
Frontzeck (Phillips, h-tt, Summirboe
Brightwell, Clough, Brown Kinhladze
Quan, Kavelastvili (Röslor, 67)
Manchester United Schmechol
Nevillo, Bruce (May, 74), G Noville, Irain
Beckham, Burt, Koane, Giggs Cantona
Colo (Sharpe, 74).

Coventry City 1 Liverpool 0

#### Evans in protest at Salako tackle

Martin Thorpe sees time cruelly running out for Liverpool

AVING met with tri-umph last Wednes-day, Liverpool found it impossible to treat disas-ter just the same on Satur-day. At the final whistle Roy Evans and his coaches surrounded the referee and treated him to a prolonged down the tunnel.

The heated scenes had been primed by Peter Jones's decision only to book John Salako for the rash, over-the-top tackle that broke Steve Harkness's leg. The defender could be out for nine mouths.

But it was then ignited by the referee's failure to add on commensurate injury for a late equaliser to keep alive their title hopes.

intimidated by the cacophony of home-crowd whistles urging him to seal the relegation-threatened side's first win in seven league games that he added only 2min 56sec. There should have been at least

seven minutes extra.

Five minutes of that was caused by Harkness's injury after Salako's 59thminute challenge bent the defender's leg like a hairpin, snapping his tibis and fibula. Harkness requires major surgery.

In fairness the referee did not see the tackle and had to consult his linesman. But the yellow card so incensed the normally placid Liverpool manager that he plans a formal protest. "Red cards are not worth anything if not shown for incidents like that," he video I feel even angrier. The linesman thought it was not violent. But that is ridiculous. A mistimed tackle like that one should be punished properly. That

Salako, no stranger to long-term injury himself. had just arrived as a substitute. "I felt the ball was there to go for," he said. pool players' hostile reaction for getting him booked. Equally galling was the reaction of the large, odious element in the home crowd. As Harkness lay contemplating a missed FA Cup final and long rehabilitation, up went the chant of "cheat, cheat" as if he was acting. It was perhaps then that the referee decided that lots of injury time

might not be wise. Ron Atkinson cast uside his reputation for cavalier football and went for the unashamed life-saving tar-tic of defending in numbers and hustling. Liverpool's passing was disrupted and. when the error-prone James failed to cut out Ndlovu's cross, Whelan hooked it in acrobatically. Fowler had one clear chance, near the end when clean through on Ogrizovic. But he missed and Liverpool's title hopes went too. People had laughed when Big Ron predicted Coventry would get at least one win from their Easter games against Liverpool and Manchester United. His intu-ition is still sound. even if his managerial reputation remains in the balance.

SCORER Covering Whelan (16min) Coventry: Ogrizova; Pickoring, Busst. Daish, Borrows (Salako, 57) Teller Rochardson, Williams, Ndiovy (Jess, 57), Wholan, Dublin.

SCORERS: Newcastle United: Beardslev (77 and Etmin) Genera Perk Rangers Hollows (83) Newcastle United: Hislop; Watson, Peacoct, Albert, Bereslond, Beardsley Lee (Gillespie, 61), Barry, Ginola, Apprilla, faultless Impey trying to play out of danger but running into trouble in the shape of Ferdinand. His square pass reginand. Queens Park Bangers: Sommer: Bardsley, McDonald. Yales, Brevett. Impey Wilkins, Holloway Sindair, Gallen, Dichio (Hateley, 78). found Beardsley ready to tuck

#### Southampton 1, Blackburn Rovers 0

stuck by him." But be owed as much to his makeshift back four of Neilson, Dodd,

Widdrington and Benali, who

limited Shearer and Newell to

a couple of half-chances.

Kenna, one of three former Saints in Rovers' side, gave

of concern when he hit a post.

first game of the sea

Grobbelaar, playing his

cause Beasant was dropped, pulled a muscle early on when kicking the ball clear

and looked hesitant through-

out But Blackburn hardly tested him. Their manager

Ray Harford claimed mo-

rosely: "I was certain that Southampton would never

#### Le Tissier's spot of pleasure offers Saints route to salvation

day. The final chapter is only play which saw him almost son, who is red-bot with red making changes in games"—
just being written." always at the centre of things. | cards. This time a yellow made a substitution. "I've al-

crucial positions, while head-ing away a clearence as in the 53rd minute went

though on auto-reject.

Thus inspired and coached, QPR played extremely well in the path of Holloway, whose

all departments. Brevett volley took Hislop and almost

later survived a Newcastle wide-right berth where he is

free-kick just outside the not at his best, was having the

clearing an almost certain everyone else by surprise.
Ferdinand goal off the line Hislop, back after

On one occasion he was sig-

nalling other defenders into

and Sommer blocking with

his legs another effort from

area, with Ginola booked for

pacing out the distance be-tween ball and wall and dis-

agreeing with the referee's as-

the former QPR striker.

HAT a difference a few moments can make at this time of the season. With less than 15 minutes to go Southampton looked destined or next-to-bottom place in the table. Then it all went wrong for QPR at Newcastle and it all came right for Matthew Le Tissier at The Dell.

Le Tissier, captain again because of absences, has had miserable season but he wrote yesterday's headlines by scoring from the spot after Coleman had hauled back Shipperley. It was only his fifth league goal of the season his first since November 4.

One goal was always going to be enough to best Black-burn, whose play lacked passion. Two wins and nine away goals show that the champions do not travel well. Nor do Saints, who have won only once and go to Aston Villa today, Newcastle on Wednesday week and Bolton before their season ends.

It will be no easier at home.

Manchester United are at The Dell on Saturday and Wimble-don visit on the last day. Going into those fixtures without these three points might have been disastrous. Saints' manager Dave Mer-

score" — a negative attitude when it was clear that his lot were certainly not going to.

Merrington may decide to stand by the same side. Venison, Monkou, Hall, Magilton and Maddison were absent for various reasons but he said: them. It is up to them to get right. The kids have made their mark." He must hope that, come Saturday night. the kids are still on the block.

Southampters Grobbelsar: Nelison. Dodd, Widdrington, Benali, Hughes, Tistale, Le Tisser, Hearby (Charlton, 73). Walson, Shipperley Blackburn Rowers: Flowers; Berg Marker (Fenton, 83), Coleman, Kenna. Gallischer, Sherwood, Flittroft, Wilcox. Newell, Shearer. Referees D Elleray (Harrow).

rington said: "Now people might understand why I have

Wynalda shows way for San Jose

Lithe first ever goal in the 10-team US Major League on Saturday, earning San Jose Clash a 1-0 win over Washington DC United.

Wynalda, the US striker, struck from 15 yards in the 87th minute, saving the 87th minute, saving the game from a shoot-out. front of a sell-out San Jose

"It meant more to me than any goal I've ever scored," said a tearful Wynalds afterwards.
The first yellow card was shown to Washington's Raul Diaz Arce for a foul after four minutes and in

sessment — always a dodgy | With just over 20 minutes | away the equaliser from clc | proposition with Paul Dan | left. Keegan — "I don't like | range with 12 minutes left. Everton 3, Bolton Wanderers 0

## **Bolton turn up their toes**

"I would never bring a goal like that," said Reegan.
"We stopped feeling sorry reastle's shape changed, for ourselves in the last 20

the title."

NLY last season the great cavaliers of Bol-ton Wanderers were feted as footballing visionaries after cutting a swathe through the dead wood of the First Division. Those were the days — a lovely team playing lovely stuff.

Some even referred to them as the "white Brazilians". It was a flippant one-liner yet held more than a hint of truth. How everyone rejoiced when they were promoted. Bolton's relegation from the Premiership will not be too long delayed now, the sadness

be mourned by few.

being that their passing will Perhaps their last chance of southall was survival rested on Saturday's plete a save.

the best if aching limbs, tired by a long season, were pro-tected and if collective ambition was diluted. Bolton died with their carpet slippers on and, as their captain Alan Stubbs hinted afterwards, that is unacceptable and unforgivable. A taw-

trip to Goodison Park. They had to win but victories are

schieved at such venues only

by players of character,

whose will to succeed is not shattered by the first painful

Bolton battled bravely all the way from the first minute

to the second. Then it seemed

to be unanimously agreed that it would probably be for

dry spectacle had entered its final minute before Neville Southall was required to com

"As a team we never really threatened," said the man-ager Colin Todd, proving again that he has now mas-tered the art of understatement. If Everton encounter such inadequate resistance in their remaining fixtures, they may yet qualify for Europe The points were theirs from

Wilkins . . . director of play

the moment Hottiger's low drive snaked home midway through the first half and late goals by Kanchelskis and Amokachi in no way flattered

Congests average in the congest of t

First Division: Ipswich Town 1, Reading 2

#### Reading make the most of Portman Road's surface tension

Jeremy Alexander

ASUFFOLK punch would toil on Portman Road's pitch these days. In the late Eighties a farmer, offering snow-clearance aid, took the top off. The surface has gone down ever since while Ips-wich have gone up and down. Last season Fisons ended their sponsorship. Last week the groundsman was dismissed. On Saturday the

pitch coagulated Ipswich minds and Reading de-servedly took the points. servedly took the points.

It was little surprise. Thirteen months ago Ipswich lost 9-0 at Old Trafford. They are no better equipped now. regardless of their play-off chance of going back for more punishment. Eleven months

ago Reading came within five minutes at Wembley of beatng Bolton to the Premier ship. They are no worse now. despite a place only one above

Jimmy Quinn, their joint player-manager with Mick Gooding, said: "This div-ision's like that." They have another chance to prove it against Palace today, George Burley, their Ipswich counterpart, had the same script: in the slapstick idlom.
"This league's like that." It is Sheppard, in Rea a motto of inconsistency.

Quinn, 36, got his 12th goal of the season, taking a deep cross on the chest beyond Vaughan and cracking it in at the near post - a striker's masterpiece to add to Bernal's tap-in. Gooding, 37 this week, was the main influence in the clotted midfield. Their in- lished results of its

Reading will not want to start at their new stadium in the Second Division. Already their crowds are 3,000 down

They are the division's leading scorers (70) but Marshall (17) was missing. Burley spoke of the "added duty to entertain" at home. On Saturday's surface it could only be

Sheppard, in Reading's goal, rose to the occasion. Mikhailov, their No. 1, has played only 12 games. "The only thing he hasn't had is mad cow disease," sald Quinn, himself one of seven Reading keepers this season. "Shep's the only one we've got fit."

Last week the DTI pub-

Home Accident Surveillance System. conducted through 18 hospitals. Sheppard might have been one of the five who needed treatment for accidents with a sieve. He hooked sliced, shanked, fell over and still Reading passed back. He punched vertically high and escorted the descent for push-over corner and, after Mathie pulled a goal back, he foiled an equaliser as Milton's in. At the end his fist pierced the air — a Suffolk punch of triumph over lunacy

SCORERS: Inswichs Mathie (Timint Readings Bernst (22), Cumii (54)
Readings Bernst (22), Cumii (54)
Readings Bernst (22), Cumii (54)
Swallee Nithon, h-1), Sedghry Vicyhur
Taricco, G Williams, Thonson Mason
Scowcroft Mathie
Readings Sheppard, Bernyl, Bernyl
Widowczy, A Williams, (Hologoc, 90),
Gillies, Caskey, Parkinson, Gooding,
Cuno Williams and 750

nontgo!

कुन्द्र साधानि होते । वर्ष १४० व्य

sestant relation for

is all I am asking.

Whoten Dubin.
Liverpoet James; Jones (Aust., 73)
Matho. Hariness (Thomas, 64) Scales.
McAteer. McManaman Rocknapp.
Barnes Collymore Fowler
Referees P Jones (Loughborough).

## Montgomerie held in check by putter

Devid Davies in Atlanta

NE good, final round equalled a very good, not to say substantial cheque in the BellSouth Classic in Atlanta, Georgia, yesterday. With a first prize of £156,000 on offer, anyone in the top 10 would earn £20,000 or more and Colin Montgomerie and lan Woosnam were both well aware of that. good, not to say subon offer, anyone in the top 10 would earn £20,000 or more

Starting at one under par, nine behind the overnight leader David Duval, they knew that something in the order of 58 on the difficult but beautiful Atlanta Country Club course would bring con-siderable reward, and it was Montgomerie who made the

first move.

He holed a 30-foot putt on the 1st green, the kind of encouragement that often leads to a good putting round.

This did not transpire, how-ever, largely because the Scot could not get his normally im-

Clive Everton in Plymouth

make his fourth such attempt

today after beating Dave Harold 6-5 here in the British

No more than a single frame separated the players

through a long, grinding

match. There were some substantial frame-clinching breaks — 84 by Harold to lead

Open semi-finals.

No. 12, has never won a diocrity all round. world-ranking title but will "I wanted so bad

contrast to the way Corey pionship at Seston Carew in Favin, in the match in front, 1978, played in the 1983 played it. A weak drive left him an impossible second, which hit a tree. He punched then took a golf scholarship at the took at the

from four feet for another to go to three under and, at the long 8th, 550 yards, hit an enormous drive down the middle. Aware that another birdie would take him to joint seventh, he decided to go for the green in two but pushed the shot badly, finished in thick rough and was glad to

Save par.

Both parred the difficult 9th, with Montgomeric out in 35 and Woosnam in 34 and all

still to play for.

Last year's tournament was enlivened by the presence at the top of the leader-board after three rounds of Stephen could not get his normally immaculate iron game in order and kept leaving himself 40-foot "birdie" putts, which, in reality, he was glad just to get close. Two of these, at the 5th and 6th, actually hit the hole but stayed out.

Woosnam had hit a towering seven-iron to 10 feet at the 5th, just sliding the birdie putt past the hole, in sharp

Bond must mature for a £60,000 dividend

| 2-1, 62 by Bond to lead 4-3 and | 5-4 and Peter Ebdon 5-3 if the 62 by Harold to lead 5-4 — but | 590,000 first prize is to be his. | 16EL BOND, the world | in those frames and much me | fence of his title with a 5-3

"I wanted so badly to get to the final," said Bond, now as-sured of at least £32,000. "We

then took a golf scholarship at Florida State University. His success in 1995 did not

earn him an automatic place in this year's event, nor could he get himself an invitation — ironically because so many Buropean players were after the same thing with this week's US Masters in mind. So Keppler joined a field of more than 100 qualifiers com-

peting for two places. He came first. His preparation has been rather different from that of the superstars with whom he has been mixing this week. He does his day's work, puts his daughter to bed and then goes down to a nearby driving range for some practice. After switches on the video machine and re-runs the tape of

last year's event.
So far, sadly, it has not worked although he qualified for the final two rounds with



Wheelie important ... Jehan d'Orgeix raises the obligatory handlebars as his 750cc wheelie important . . . Jehan d'Orgeix raises the obligatory handlebars as his 750cc machine crosses the finishing line in the Le Mans 24-hour motorcycle race. The Belgian shares his victory with Scotland's Brian Morrison and Piergiorgio Bontempi of Italy, his colleagues in Team France Kawasaki. Morrison, 35, completed his third victory in this prestigious endurance event, riding another Kawasaki in 1993 and a Honda last year. Michael Doohan of Australia, the world champion, won yesterday's Indonesian Grand Prix, regaining top form after finishing only fifth in the season's opening race at Shah Alam the previous weekend **SPORTS NEWS 15** 

Sport in brief

#### **Washington defied** in Davis Cup defeat

PETR KORDA, sharply criticised for a poor performance on Friday, became the hero yesterday as the Czech Republic knocked out the United States, the Davis Cup holders, in the World Group quarter-finals. He recovered from his shaky dis-play in Friday's opening singles against Todd Martin to take the deciding match from MaliVai Washington 7-6, 6-3, 6-2. Korda, injured for most of last year, staved off two set points, broke Washington's serve in the first point of the tie-break and never looked back. "He played as solid as a rock," said the Czech, "but as the match went on I began to feel better and

The Czechs will play Sweden in the semi-finals in September. France, 5-0 winners over Germany, will play Italy, 4-1 winners over South Africa. in the other semi-final.

#### Makinen trophy on first Safari

TOMMI MAKINEN confounded expectations and overturned conventions in winning the Safari Raily. The Firm survived a tyre blow-out and a flash flood to sprint away from Kenneth Eriksson. yesterday. Makinen had not been expected to win on his first attempt at

the world championship's roughest and fastest rally, especially as his vehicle was not meant to be up to the task. Mitsubishi brought

his vehicle was not meant to be up to the task. Missibish brought a car designed for much shorter sprint rallies but survived by replacing fragile parts at every opportunity.

The world champion Colin McRae finished fourth in a Subaru Impreza after a host of suspension problems and a minor collision with a 12-year-old spectator on Saturday. "It's not very enjoyable to fight for world championship points in conditions like this," he said. "There's too much down to luck here."

#### Cullen puts Hightown in final

TINA CULLEN scored yet another European Cup Winners' Cup goal yesterday to give Hightown the draw they needed to gain a place in today's final against Berliner, writes Pat Rowley. Cullen scored four in the 12-0 drubbing of Libertas Saba on Saturday, then gave Hightown an early lead against Rotterdam yesterday with a sweet drive from their second penalty corner. She has scored 10 goals in seven games in this competition. Guildford, also needing a draw from their final group match at The Hague after Danny Hall scored two fine goals in a 3-0 win over Bohemians Prague on Saturday, did not look in undue trouble against Durkheimer of Germany but lost 2-0. A couple of defensive errors allowed Matthias Bechmann and Uwe Krauss to score in the 49th and 67th minutes.

#### **Bartoli takes Flanders**

MICHELE BARTOLI scored his first World Cup victory when he finished almost a minute ahead of the pack in yesterday's Tour of

The Italian broke free of the leading group 10 miles from the finish on the Wall of Geraardsbergen, a punishing cobblestone climb, to complete the 167-mile race in 6hr 31min 29sec. The World Cup holder, Belgium's Johan Museeuw, was beaten into third place by Fabio Baldato after an 18-man sprint for second.

#### Jets crash to end season

THE CHESTER JETS stalled 12 minutes from the end of the Budweiser League season yesterday. After taking a 65-47 lead in the third quarter against the Thames Valley Tigers, they failed to score another field goal in going down 70-67 in what may be their last game in the league.

Chester will have to seek re-election for the fifth successive

season, along with the Doncaster Panthers and the Hemel Royals.

#### Weekend results

Soccer

s surface tend

sured of at least \$22,000. "We both did. That's probably why is wasn't a very good match."

Against John Riggins or Ronnie O'Sallivan, the other semi-finalists, Bond knows he will need to play less like this and more as he did when he discovered of Stophen Regions of the last two shots of which he remains the last two shots of which he remains the last two shots of which he remains the last two shots of which he

| FA CARLING PRESENCESSET Arsental 2 | Leads 1, Chelessa 1, Aston Vila 2, Coverity 1, Liverpool 0; Everton 3, Botton 0; Man City 2, Man Und 2, Newcastie 2, CPR 1; Noteri Forest 2, Totenham 1; Southampton 1, Blockburn 0; West Ham 1, Witsheldon 1, Blockburn 1, Blockb

Why is everyone talking Yakult?

quarter-final win over John

Parrott, who won the opening

two frames. O'Sullivan, who changed his cue-tip when 2-2

Sweinness 40 10 13 7 51 61 43

Sweinheim 40 8 10 22 40 60 34

Hall 60 5 16 20 32 22 20

Third Divisions Burnet 2, Nordenthion 0, Bary 0, Manseleid 2, Cambridge Liu 2, 2

Pochdale 1; Chester 5, Szarborough 0, Colichester 1, Cardille (Ricklingham 2, Hart-Ispon) 0, Hereford 1, Fablant 0, Lincoln 0, Servier 1; Physnouth 0, Derdriggen 1; Present 1, Cardille (Ricklingham 2, Hart-Ispon) 0, Hereford 1, Fablant 0, Lincoln 0, Servier 1; Physnouth 0, Derdriggen 1; Present 1, Leyen Orient 1, Loyen Orient 1, Loyen 0, 11 1,

MELLEDETK CLASSIC (Mariena, Geor-

Colors Vicenus C. Lisnishen 1; Torino O. Instinutum A. Dilv (Flotterdam): Group As Pegasun (Ire) O. Sardineru (Sp) 2. Berliner 1; Side Francais V. Francais 2. Sardinero C. Berliner 1, Pagasun Z. Pirusi standingen 1, Berliner 4; 2. Stade Francais oc. 3; Pagasus 3. Br. Flotterdam S. Libertas (I) C. Rotterdam 1; Libertas (I) C. Rotterdam 1; Libertas (I) C. Rotterdam 1; Libertas (I) C. Rightown 1; Rotterdam 1; Libertas 1, Surny S. Standinger 1, Hightom 5; 2, Rotterdam 4, Dilv (Dundeo): Grova (Scot) S. Budejovice (C2) 1; Manton (Valan) 18. Espoon (Fin) C. George S. Negatown 0; Budejovice 14, Espoon 0.

MATIONAL LEAGUE: Hartierd 3, New Jersey & Colorado 5, San Jose 1; NY 19-Janders 3, Burlado 0, Mentreal 2, Florida 1; Purshaigh 2, Tampa Bay 1 Toronto 5, St.

**Motor Cycling** 

v Leek Tn; Spennymoor v B Auckland; Witten Alb v Winstord Utd. Firsts Alfreton Tn v Essewood Tn; Congleton Tn v Atherion IX; Farsley Celtic v Bradford PA; Gerlina v Whitley Base I temple Utd. Certon Arbitro. Nether.

BIDOSEESIA 1250cc CP. 1. M Totautomo (Japan) Aprilac 2. N Apill (Japan) Honda: 2. P Cell (Ger) Aprilla 250ccc 1. 7 Farada (Japan) Yarusha; 2. M Bilaggi (I) Aprilis; 3, R Walkmarn (Ger) Honda: 2. A Barros (5)
Honda: 3. L Capirose (II) Yarusha 1. P
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PETHERCEN NATIONAL LEAGUE: First Divisions Abstavon v Cardiff (2.30). CLUBBS Elitenhead Pk v Winnington Pic Bonymeen v Neath (2.30); Bridgend v

wannfield (5.30); Feetherston's v Deresbury (7.30); Hoddorsfield v Rochdele (7.30); Keighley v Hall (3.30); Widnes v Whin-haven. Seconds Carrifes v Lelgh; Oncas-ler v York; Hull KRI v Hunslet; Prescot v Sarrow, South Wales v Brannley (8.0, Swansea); Swinton v Chorley (6.30).

SUNDAY BBC Radio 4

**COMPLAINT FROM** SPECTRUM RADIO

In June last year, the Sunday programme carried an item about a new Persian-language series broadcast on Spectrum Britain's ethnic minorities. Spectrum complained to the Broadcasting Complaints Commission that the item had made unfair allegations that some broadcasters on Spectrum were from an Iranian terrorist group financed by the Iraqi

from the first week's broadcasts of the new series that it was this element of the complaint. They did, however, find that, through loose terminology and editing, part of the item could - contrary to the BBC's intention - have been taken as suggesting that the series was being financed from Baghdad. In that respect, the complaint was upheld.

You can get a copy of the full adjudication by sending a stamped addressed envelope to: Broadcasting Complaints Commission, PO Box 333, London SWIP 3ZE.

be broadcast on BBC Radio 4 on Sunday 7 April 1996 at 7,40 a.m.,

# SportsGuardian

#### ARGENTINIAN GRAND PRIX GIVES THE WILLIAMS DRIVER HIS FOURTH WIN IN A ROW

# Dream season rolls on for Hill

Richard Williams in Buenos Aires

AMON HILL may have the best car in the field but it still needs to be driven properly. A commanding victory in an incident-packed Grand Prix of Argentina yesterday, his fourth championship win in a row, confirmed his increasing maturity. while second place for his team-mate Jacques Ville-neuve provided the Williams-Renault team with their 26th perfect one-two finish.

Hill's success, his 16th in grands prix, brings him level with Stirling Moss's career total. He now enjoys a perfect score of 30 points out of 30, an 18-point lead over Villeneuve as the grand prix circus prepares to move back to Europe. Perhaps more significantly, he now has 26 points more than Michael Schumacher. who retired his Ferrari soon after half-distance with hand-

ling problems after part of his rear wing broke off.

Third in the race, despite stalling his engine during a pit stop, was Jean Alesi in his Renault-engined Benetton. ahead of Rubens Barrichello's Jordan-Peugeot, Eddie Irvine's Ferrari and Jos Ver-stappen's Footwork-Hart. In hot and dusty conditions only 10 cars finished the race, in-cluding David Coulthard and 10 cars finished the race, including David Coulthard and Johnny Herbert, who will not maxed by a powerful rush

have been delighted by seventh and ninth positions respectively.

Hill led from flag to flag over 72 laps of the tight, bumpy 21-mile Autodromo Oscar Galvez, fending off an early challenge from Schu-macher and retaining the lead through a series of incidents that enlivened the middle of the race and brought out the safety car for a lengthy

While the Williams team leader made a perfect start, holding Schumacher at bay as they contested the first bend, his number two fared less well. His clutch slipping as he tried to leave the line, Villeneuve saw the two Benettons of Alesi and Gerhard Berger roar past in the first 100 metres. By the time the field had sorted itself out through Turn One he was ninth and beginning the long haul back towards the leaders. Although the margin be

tween them was less than a second for the first half-dozen laps, Schumacher showed no sign that the Ferrari was capable of challenging Hill for the lead. Behind the Benettons in third and fourth, Coulthard was holding up a pursuing gang including Barrichello, Verstappen and Mika Hakkinen in the other McLaren. Villeneuve's brisk progress through the field be-



the Brazilian driver Pedro Diniz scrambles clear moments before his Ligler was engulfed in flames

to claim fifth place on the

ninth lap. With Hill extending his lead to six seconds, Schumacher broke the stelemate by taking on fuel and tyres on lap 21 in a stop lasting only seven seconds. When Alesi came out of the pits a lap later, the world champion had the big crowd cheering as he squeezed the Ferrari past the Benetton into the first turn. laps both Williams made their

first pit stops and had his mirrors. resumed their positions when

On the 27th lap Luca Badoer turned his Forti-Ford over on the inside of the turn behind the paddock and could be seen crawling out of the inverted car. The Forti did not seem to be in a particularly dangerous position but the race director sent out the safety car to sit in front of the leader, allowing the field to bunch up and costing Hill the margin he had so assiduously built up. Now Schumacher

Alesi and Berger were back in

gently three laps later when the Minardi-Ford of Pedro Diniz, which had just left the pits, burst into flame around the back of the circuit, perhaps as a result of a fuel leak. Its rear wheels locked, the Minardi spun to a halt and the Brazilian emerged from a ball of orange flame miracu-

Frentzen spun his Sauber out added that the new shape of of the race. Again Hill held a narrow lead for several laps, and at the end of the 40th makes the wing mirrors Schumacher dived back into his pit, leaving with fuel and new tyres after 12.6 seconds. back in eighth place. Alesi's set stomach and the loss of against the barrier. There-aggression was again in evidence as, emerging from his second stop after having to restart his engine, he passed Schumacher at Turn One.

When Barrichello and Herbert followed the French driver past the Ferrari, it hecame evident that Schumacher was in trouble. At the end of the 46th lap he headed for the pit lane and drove straight into his garage, shortly to be seen in animated conversation with his race engineer Ignazio Lunetta. Later it emerged that a piece wing, removing part of it and

If what it takes to get ahead and survive

ahead in TV is

Gaby

toughness,

undoubtedly

has it. "She's

hard as nails,

gentlemen!"

shouts Chris

ladies and

Dan Glaister

Gaby Roslin

G2 page 8

Evans.

talks to

billity. A team spokesman said that the wing would have taken too long to replace to make the effort worthwhile. Schumacher was reported to have said that the debris

had come from Hill's car, al-though the Williams driver was unable to confirm it. "I couldn't have seen anything." The pace car left the track he said. "You can hardly see at the start of the 33rd lap at the car behind you, never which point Heinz-Harald mind anything else." He

much less effective.

Hill, too, suffered from handicaps, in his case an up-



his engineers, which meant that all signals had to be transmitted via the old-fash-

ioned pit board. But the rest of the race, including a second pit stop, went smoothly enough to give him a comfortable 12-second cushion over Villeneuve by the time the race ended after al-After Schumacher's disap-pearance and Alesi's difficul-

ties in the pits Berger looked a certainty for second place between Hill and Villeneuve, for whom the arrival of the safety car had proved a blessing. But after his second stop, with 15 laps to go, the Aus-trian abandoned his car pursuit of Coulthard provided the race's chief remaining in terest, although Alesi had cut the gap to Villeneuve from 12 seconds to 2.5 by the end, the Benetton running out of fuel on the slowing-down lap.

"It's a great result and a fantastic day." Hill said. "It can't get any better than this. It was a bit disappointing when the pace car came out and allowed the cars to close up but it was the same for everyone. The competition's getting closer all the time and there will be some fantastic

**Scottish Cup** semi-final Celtic 1, Rangers 2

## Rangers maintain firm grip

Patrick Glenn

from the cup pre-sented evidence that their inability to beat Rangers, who play Hearts in the final, stems not from

a hex but an affliction.

This latest defeat in the sixth meeting between the sides since September—
Rangers have now won three and drawn the others - was as comprehensive as

any which preceded it. Even if Van Hooydonk's goal eight minutes from the end gave Celtic fans a glimpse of a roplay and caused their counterparts to whistle for the finish, there was a lack of punch about the Parkhead side that made them easy

Celtic seem to lose strength, pace and imagina-tion whenever they meet their greatest rivals. Even if Rangers' concession of two-thirds of the field in Old Firm games is a calcu-lated tactic, their opponents seem unable or un-willing to operate at their normal speed.

Once again they appeared to meander through a pe-destrian first half before conceding a goal in the 43rd minute.

It resulted from an appalling piece of judgment by Marshall. Robertson's shot appeared to be sliding wide when Marshall dived full length to push it straight to McColst, who drilled home from 10 yards. By the time Lendry fire

By the time Laudrup fin-ished off a delightful one-two with Durie by lobbing Marshall from outside the area. Rangers were by far the more effective and dangerous team. Van Hooy-donk's glancing header from McNamara's cross gave the scoreline an though two minutes from time Donnelly missed a

chance to force a replay. On Wednesday at Tyne castle in the Premier Division Rangers meet Hearts. who best Aberdeen 2-1 in the other semi-final on Saturday, in a final rehearsal. That game is no less impor-tant for Rangers, who are trying to protect a five-point lead over Celtic.

Cettle: Marshall, McNamara, Hughes. Boyd, McKintay, Donnelly, Grant, McStay, McLaughlin (Wiaghorst, h-1), Van Hongdonk, Thom Rangera: Goram; Cleland, Petric, McLaran, Brawn, Robertson, Durie (Steven, Bomin), Gascoigne, McGalf, McCotst, Laudrup, Hetorees L Motrom (Form).



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## **Guardian Crossword No 20,621**

Set by Crispa

Across 1 Dispatch in which militar men scoffed about support (8)

5 Refuses to admit bread's not well made (6) 9 A bitter harangue to help backward folk (8) 10 Paper that's to come out

11 Left at home to occupy a

relative (8)
12 Meals the queen finds something of a problem (6)

14 Not the government's work-place (10)

18 Mundane labours for the

after the end of August (6)

defence (10)
22 A steep requirement for

23 An example of the generally accepted viewpoint (8) 24 A moving experience (6) 25 Obstruct it and a person will

26 About to go into action, so double up (6) 27 A fan might well be there, and going wild (8)

Down 1 Salad-stuff some undergrad is having for lunch (6) 2 Discovers a certain number

3 Rig has possibilities, but it's too flamboyant (6) 4 The board readily accepts

small change, and that serves (10) round (8)

7 Criminal dimwits inside (8) 8 A listening device put in to influence the strong language (8)
13 Deceived the worker and so

assumed control (4,2,4) 15 Deposit perhaps a hundred which can be really hard (8)

WINNERS OF PREZE PUZZLE 20,514 XXXXXX XXXXXX OF XXXXXX XXXXX XXXXX OF

16 Get into line - time for

beastly training! (8) 17 A mad character in the Civil Service giving talks (8) 19 All out attack (6)

20 Points to the centre yet again (6)
21 Shudder at reading of French trial (6)

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